ISSUE 21 100 DAYS OF HOME SEWING

LOVE TO CRAFT EVERY DAY

MAKE ME INSIDE

AND US!

100 DAYS OF

ISSUE 21

HOME SEWING

LOVE TO CRAFT EVERY DAY

THREADY, STEADY SEW!

INSTANT ROOM UPDATES ON A BUDGET

25 PAGES OF GORGEOUS EMBROIDERY

CLASSIC PATCHWORK QUILTS

PLUS! MAKE WITH mum

5 projects for mini-makers

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ISSUE21

100 MAKES FOR EVERY ROOM

★ NECK CUSHION ★ **GARDEN KNEELER** ★ ECO CLOTHS
★ **CURTAINS & BLINDS** ★ POT HOLDER ★ **HOTTIE COSY**
★ **WREATH** ★ IPAD STAND ★ **BEAN BAG** ★ GIFT BAGS
★ CAT IGLOO ★ **PLAY MAT** ★ LAP TRAY ★ **TABLEWARE**

SIMPLE STORAGE IDEAS

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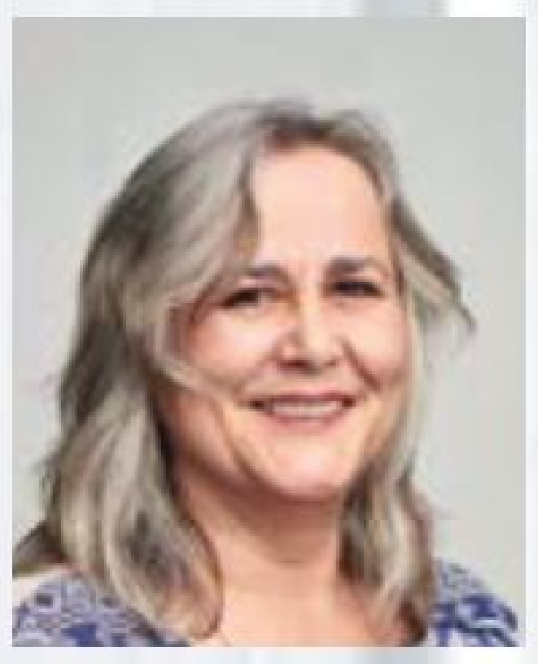

Welcome to 100 Days of Home Sewing. Whether you're looking for ideas to make something fabulous to give an instant update to your own home, or want to stitch a special gift for a loved one, we've got plenty of inspiration – a whole 100 days' worth in fact!

From Liberty pillowcases (p112) and patchwork table linen (p74, 80, 115) to fabric wall art (p29, 44, 71, 98) and toy caddies (p120), every room in the house is covered! While all of the projects can be personalised by buying fabric in shades to suit your colour schemes at home, we have plenty of stash-busting makes that can easily be made with offcuts of fabrics you're sure to already own.

And don't worry if you're short on time as we have lots of simple makes that can be whipped up in just a couple of hours. But if you do have longer and want to try out a larger project, check our beautiful quilts (p14, 106, 108, 110) or our guides to making your own curtains and blinds from scratch (p46, 48). Enjoy!

Corinne

CORINNE BRADD **EDITOR**

P.S. Catch me at **youtube.com/thecraftschannel** to watch my crafty tutorials – there's loads of tips and tricks to help you on your creative journey

Make me, I'm hootiful

MEET THE TEAM

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MAKE WITH Mum

Watch out for this logo for projects that are family-friendly!

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE
9TH FEBRUARY
Call 0800 904 7000 to get your hands on 100 Days of Pom-poms!

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Seagull decoration

This cheeky marine bird is sure to look amazing suspended from a shelf or ceiling, adding a nautical touch to your home

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: plain white, cotton; pale grey, speckled; black and white, patterned; yellow ★ Felt, flesh coloured ★ Toy stuffing ★ Net: grey, navy and silver ★ Sequins: gold, two; iridescent ★ Embroidery thread, black, six-strand ★ Heavyweight pelmet interfacing ★ Glue, PVA, acid-free ★ Elastic bands, small, clear, two ★ Wadding scrap

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. For the main body, cut two pieces from plain white fabric and two beaks from yellow fabric. Pin the beaks in place, right side up onto the beak section of the white body, also right side up. Use yellow thread to stitch the two inner sides of each beak.

2 Iron on the reverse, then cut away the excess white fabric from underneath the beak. Cut a 0.5mm snip into the point of the 'V'. With the first seagull piece placed wrong side up, fold the sides of the 'V' in by 5mm, press with an iron to crease then sew the seam. Repeat this with the second seagull piece.

3 Pin both seagulls right sides together. Stitch a 5mm seam from point A to B catching a hanging loop, C round to D catching the second loop, then from E to F. Do not sew anything between points F and A or D and E, leave open. To attach the breast, use the template to cut a breast piece from white fabric. Lay the bird in front, then fold and pin the unstitched top layer of fabric between points D and E up out of the way.

4 Lay the breast insert in place so that the bottom edge of it matches the edge of the body, then pin in place and sew a 5mm seam from point to point. Unpin, turn the bird over and repeat, pinning the now stitched half of the breast out of the way while sewing the remaining edge from point to point.

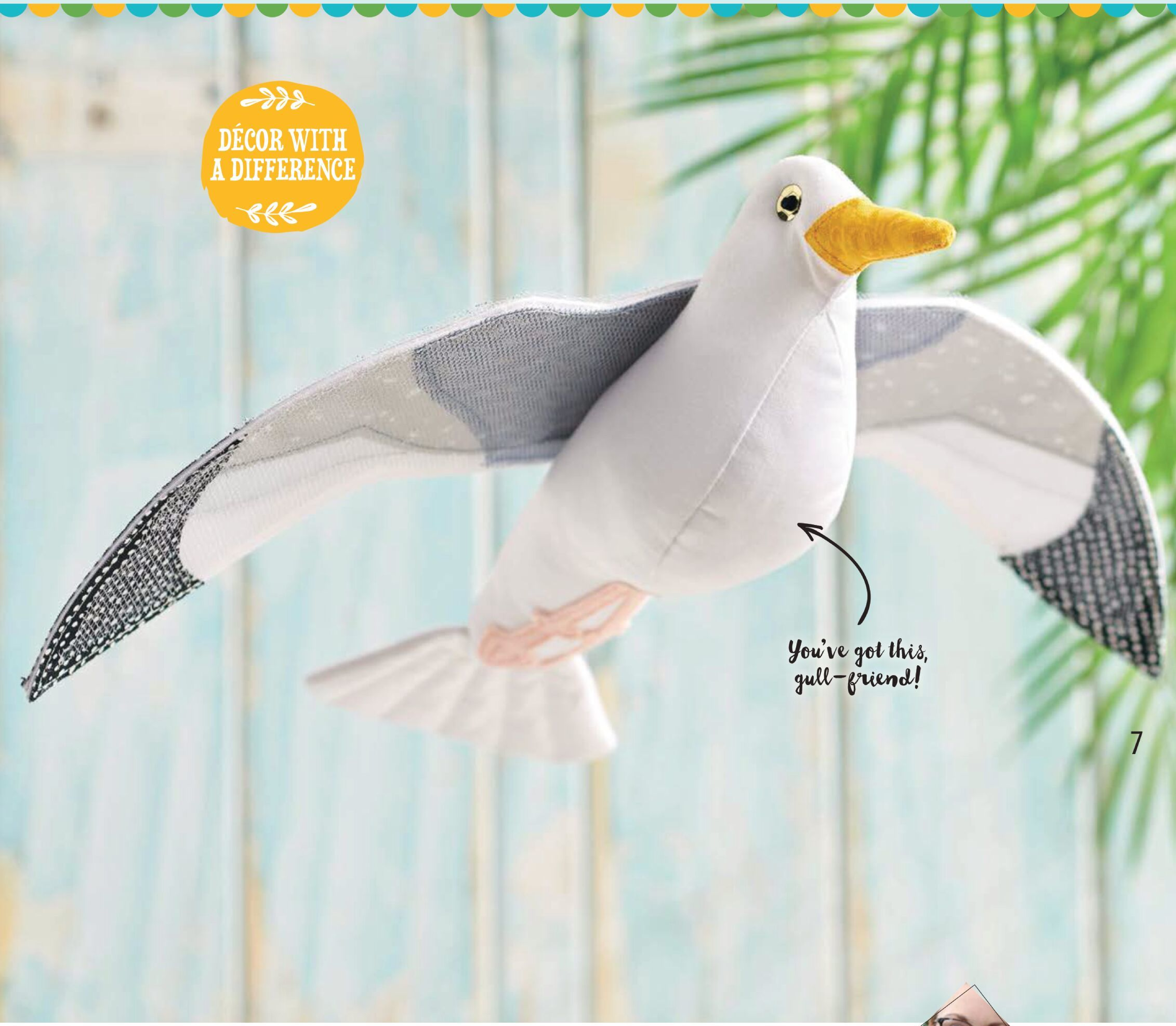
5 Use pinking shears to cut away all excess fabric from around the bird, cutting close to the stitch line. Turn the right side out by pulling through the gap in the top of the bird. Using the template, cut two tail pieces from white fabric and one from wadding. Layer them on top of each other with the wadding at the bottom and pin.

6 Sew around the three long sides with a 5mm seam, leaving the short straight bottom edge unstitched. Use pinking shears to trim all excess fabric close to the stitch line, then turn the right side out by pulling it through the unstitched end. Iron and use white thread to sew the five detail lines as marked by the dashed line on the template.

7 Insert the finished tail in between the two seagull tail flaps and pin in place so that 5cm of the length of the tail is outside the body. For the top side of the tail, use hand stitching to turn the short seams on the body under to hide the stitching and raw edge, then use small stitches to hold the tail in place. Repeat this process to finish the underside of the tail. Sew a gold sequin to both sides of the head using black embroidery thread, securing them with black French knots in the middle.

8 Cut two whole wings from white fabric by placing the half template on the fabric fold. Use one of the fabric wings as the template to cut two from the heavyweight pelmet interfacing; avoid folding or creasing the interfacing.

9 Iron the adhesive sides of the interfacing onto the



You've got this, gull-friend!

middle of each piece of white fabric. Snip into the edge of the fabric at 1cm intervals all the way around each wing, up to the edge of the interfacing, then fold each tab over onto the other side of the interfacing, using an acid-free glue stick to secure.

10 Create two different fabric sections that spread across the wings. Place the first section on the fold to cut two pieces from grey speckle fabric and use the second section to cut four from black/white fabric. Use an acid-free glue stick to separately assemble the top and bottom wings so they match, then sew all just in from the fabric edges.

11 Add a piece of silver net across two-thirds of the grey fabric and sew iridescent sequins across the inner raw edge of the grey fabric. Cut a piece of navy net using the dotted line as the template is placed on the fold and stitch it onto the middle of the wing. Sew a piece of grey net across the whole wing but leave a border of the white fabric across the wing edge.

12 Place the top and bottom wing wrong sides together and sew around the edges. The wings can be hand stitched in place along the spine of the seagull, in between the two loops sewn in earlier, or secured using acid-free PVA glue. Cut out two leg pieces from flesh coloured felt. Lay them on thin paper, machine or hand stitch the details, then tear the paper away and glue them in place under the bird.

TOP TIP! WHY NOT HANG THE SEAGULL FROM A THIN PIECE OF ELASTIC? AS IT MOVES, THE WINGS WILL FLAP!

"I love the sparkle across the wings - it looks like a ray of sunshine is hitting them!"

CAROLYN LETTEN
DESIGNER

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Hanging pods

Keep important bits and bobs to hand and colour coordinate your sewing room with these fabulous fabric storage baskets

KIT LIST

★ Assorted cottons, fat quarters ★ Pink bias binding ★ Decorative woven ribbon ★ Wadding ★ Boning ★ Fabric pen

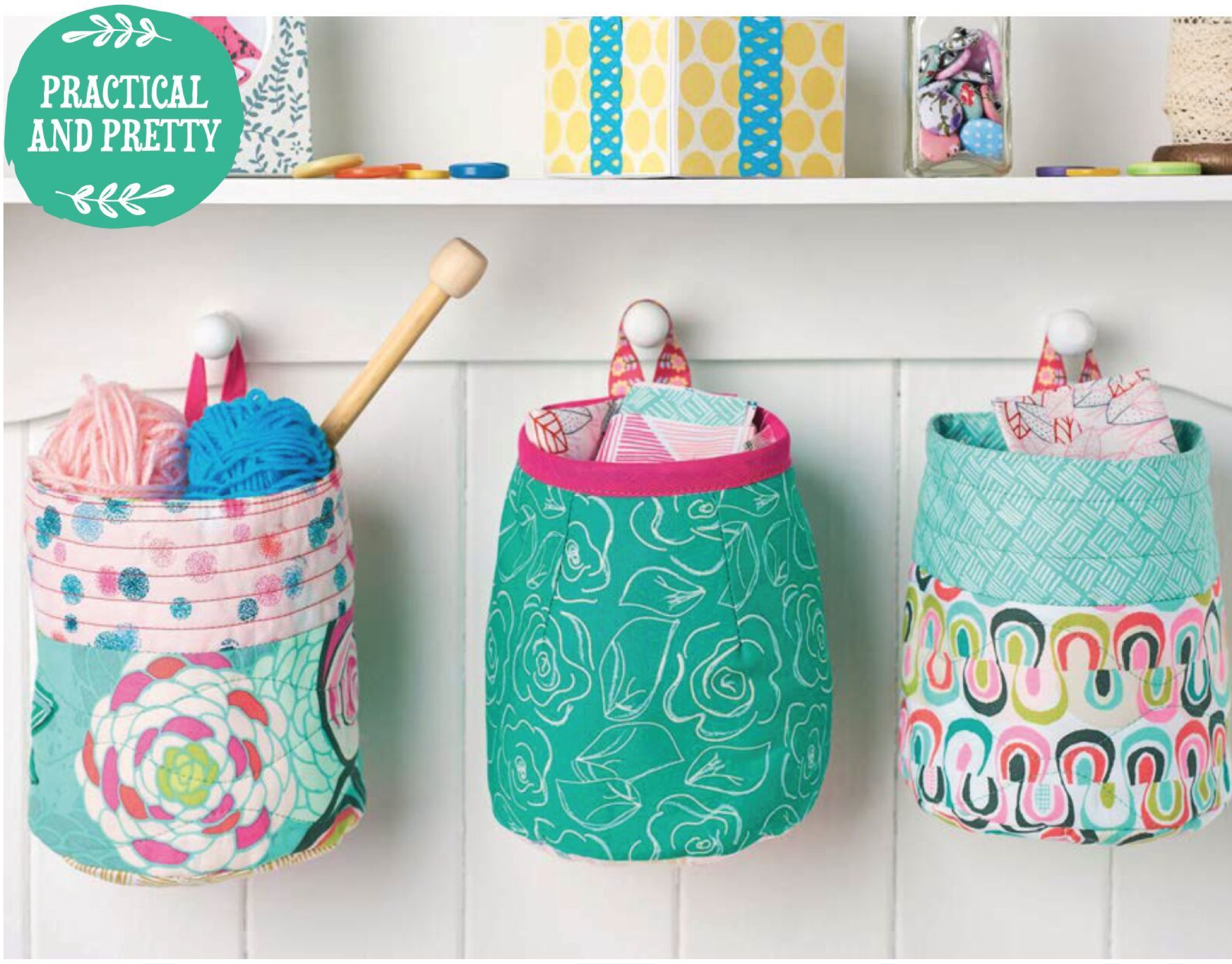
Size: 14cm x 16cm

TWO-TONE BASKET

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Place on a folded piece of paper, then unfold and cut horizontally into two pattern pieces across the marked line, allowing an extra 5mm at both sides for the seam. Omit the darts for this basket. Mark the top and bottom of each piece.

2 Checking that the templates are the right way up, cut one base from green fabric and a top from a pale pink spotty print. Pin them right sides together and stitch with a 5mm seam. Press the seam open. Iron on the reverse and trim into the slight curve with scissors or pinking shears. Cut wadding the same size and lay the fabric piece right sides facing up on top.

3 Pin them together and machine stitch three random wavy lines across the bottom using green thread. Quilt straight lines across the pink spotty fabric in bright pink thread. Trim away any excess wadding. Cut a 14cm diameter fabric circle for the bottom and wadding the same size. Pin together with the fabric right side up on top, and stitch with a 5mm seam.



PRACTICAL AND PRETTY

Take the two quilted pieces and start pinning the long bottom edge of the basket right sides together around the edge of the circular bottom. Pin all the way around leaving the slight overhang of both ends unstitched.

4 Pin the two short ends right sides together and stitch a 5mm seam. Go back to the base and finish stitching across the bottom of the seam you have just stitched. Trim off any excess wadding close to the stitch line and set aside.

5 To make the lining, cut a 14cm diameter circle from fabric, and a main fabric piece using the complete template provided. Stitch together in the same way as before. To assemble the basket, turn the outer basket inside out and place the lining within it inside out so that they are right sides together, and the back seams are aligned.

6 Pin together around the top and starting 5cm from the back seam, stitch a 5mm seam all the way around, stopping again 5cm from the back seam. Turn right side out by pulling the basket and lining back through the gap. Push the lining back inside. Make a loop from ribbon or folded bias binding and insert the raw ends in between the lining and outer at the back seam. Machine stitch in place to the outer only.

7 To insert boning at the back, stitch two 2.5cm deep vertical lines 5cm at either side of the back seam and join them across the bottom with a 10cm horizontal line. Insert a 9cm piece of plastic boning through the gap so it sits in the lines just stitched. To finish, fold the remaining raw edge in and topstitch all the way around.

DARTED GREEN BASKET

1 Use the complete template to cut one main panel from green fabric. Mark the points of each dart on the wrong side of the fabric with a water-soluble pen. With the

fabric wrong side up, pinch each dart in turn. Pin in place and sew from the edge to the point. Press each dart facing outwards.

2 Make the bottom as for the two-tone basket, and pin the green fabric right sides together with the edge of the base circle. Stitch as before, including the short ends and trim any excess on the curve. Set aside. Cut out your chosen lining using the same template and stitch the darts in place. Trim wadding the same size, but cut out each dart. Pin this to the lining, being sure to pin the sides of the darts together in the wadding as you go. Machine stitch random quilt lines.

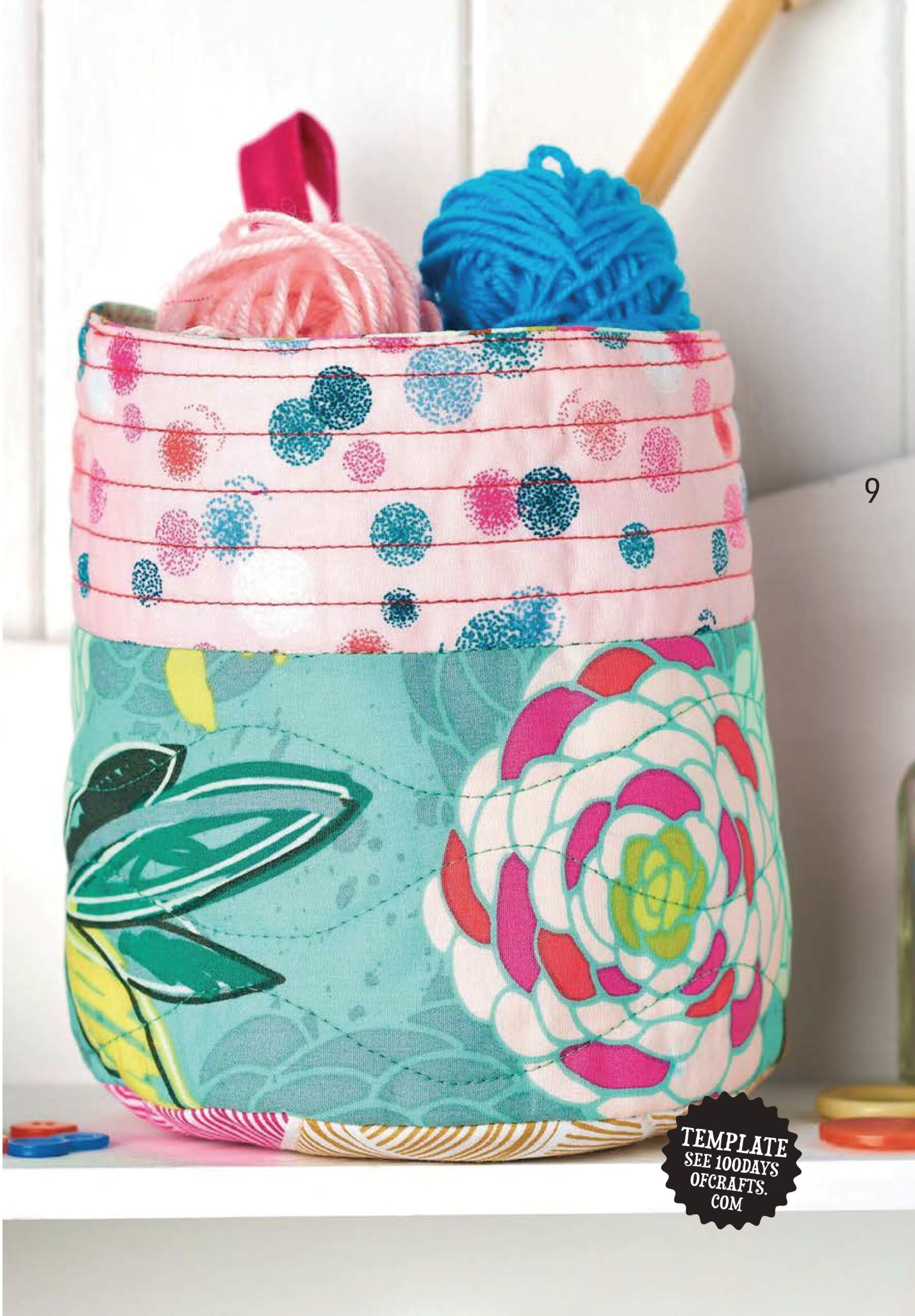
3 Cut out a circular base as before and stitch the quilted lining to it right sides together. With the main basket right side out, place the lining inside it wrong side out, pushing the lining bottom firmly down. Trim off any overhang at the top and pin together all the way around. Leaving a gap of 4cm at either side of the back seam unstitched, stitch a 5mm seam all the way around. At each end of the line just sewn, stitch a 2.5cm vertical line, then sew across to join them up at the bottom. Insert 7cm of boning then stitch across the top edge of the basket to seal it in.

4 Machine stitch pink bias binding tape around the top to cover the raw edge, inserting a loop of ribbon into the back as you stitch. To complete, pull the loop the right way up and hand stitch to secure.

TOP TIP! AS THEY'RE MADE IN PRETTY FABRICS, THESE BASKETS ARE ALSO A LOVELY WAY TO PRESENT A GIFT

"A great way to organise your haberdashery stash, the boning in the back of each tub cleverly stops them tipping forward"

CAROLYN LETTEN
DESIGNER

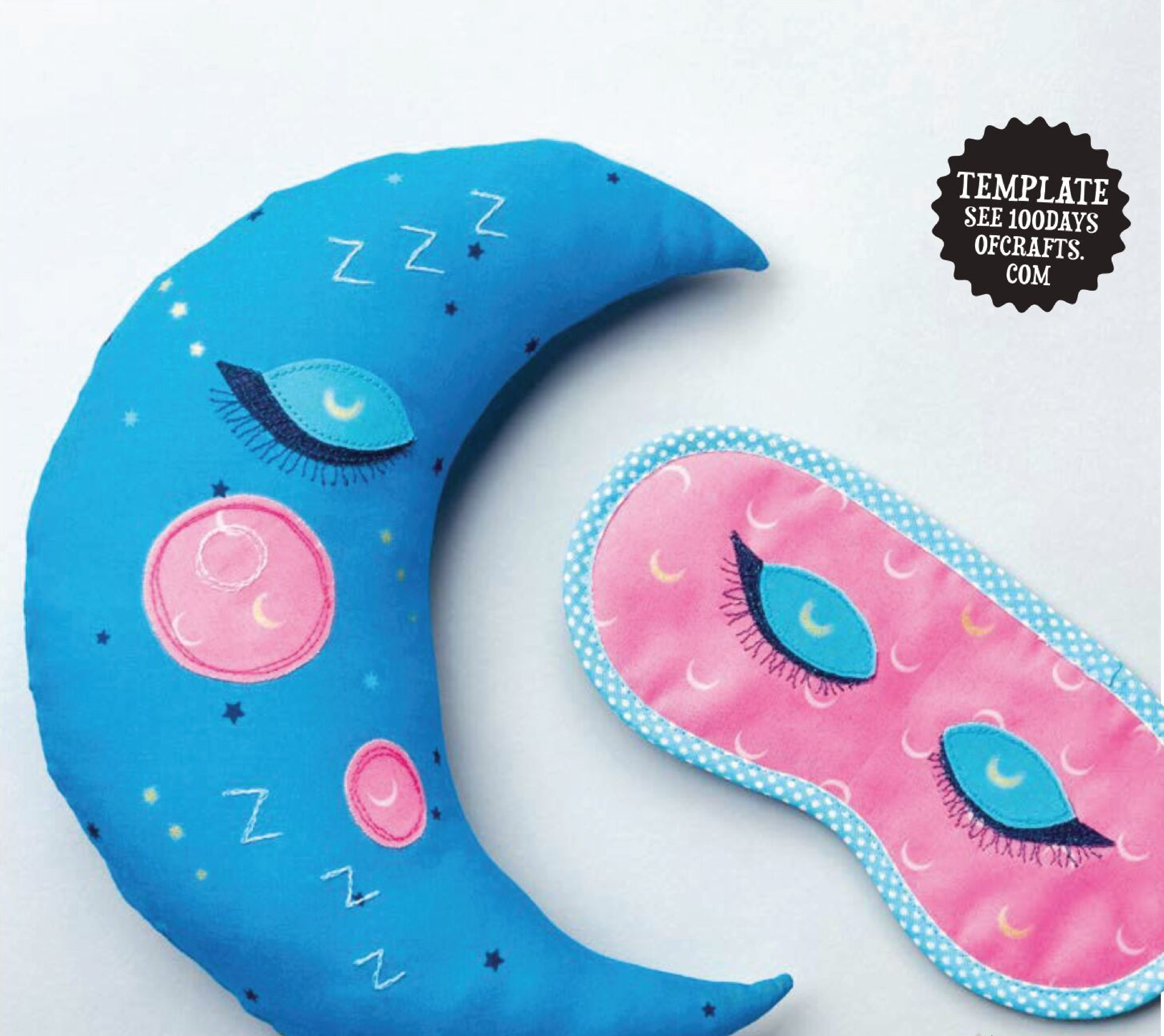


TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Snooze set

Power nap in style with this appliqué sleep mask and mini moon cushion that fits snugly under your neck



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: pink, light blue, navy, mid blue ★ Bias binding, turquoise spot, 2cm x 60cm ★ Iron-on interfacing ★ Elastic, 30cm ★ Wadding ★ Fibre filling ★ White tissue

MOON CUSHION

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Take the moon template and, adding a 1cm seam allowance, cut two opposite shapes for the front and back. Use the template to trim out a complete eye, with the base in navy and eyelid in light blue, then the cheek and mouth from pink.

2 Pin all the facial features in place and use coordinating threads to secure them. Add eyelashes in navy thread, and Zs in white thread. Press from the reverse. Pin the front and back, right sides together. Starting at the outer curve, sew a 1cm seam all the way around leaving a 7.5cm gap.

3 Trim excess fabric from the two tips and use pinking shears to carefully trim away the excess seam fabric close to the stitch line. Turn right side out, fill with stuffing and hand-sew the gap closed. at the halfway point. Cover the sides with bias binding, enclosing the ties.

EYE MASK

1 Use the template to cut one mask from each of pink, light blue and wadding. Snip two light blue eyelids, two navy eyeliner pieces and two navy crescent eyes, flipping the template for the second pieces.

2 Take the pink mask and pin the navy eyeliner pieces in place, with the light blue eyelids above. Stitch to secure, then use navy thread for the eyelashes. Press from the reverse. Repeat with the light blue mask.

3 Sandwich the wadding between the wrong sides of the masks and pin. Sew a 4mm seam all around and trim away any excess wadding. Starting at the bottom, stitch the bias binding to the edge of the mask, inserting the raw ends of the elastic under the binding at both sides of the same side.

TOP TIP! FOR PIECES TOO SMALL TO PLACE IN A HOOP, USE PAPER UNDER THE FABRIC WHILE STITCHING, THEN TEAR AWAY WHEN FINISHED

"You can fall into a heavenly slumber with this celestial sleep set"

CORINNE BRADD
EDITOR

HANDY FOR HOLIDAYS

DESIGNER **SOPHIA PALMER**

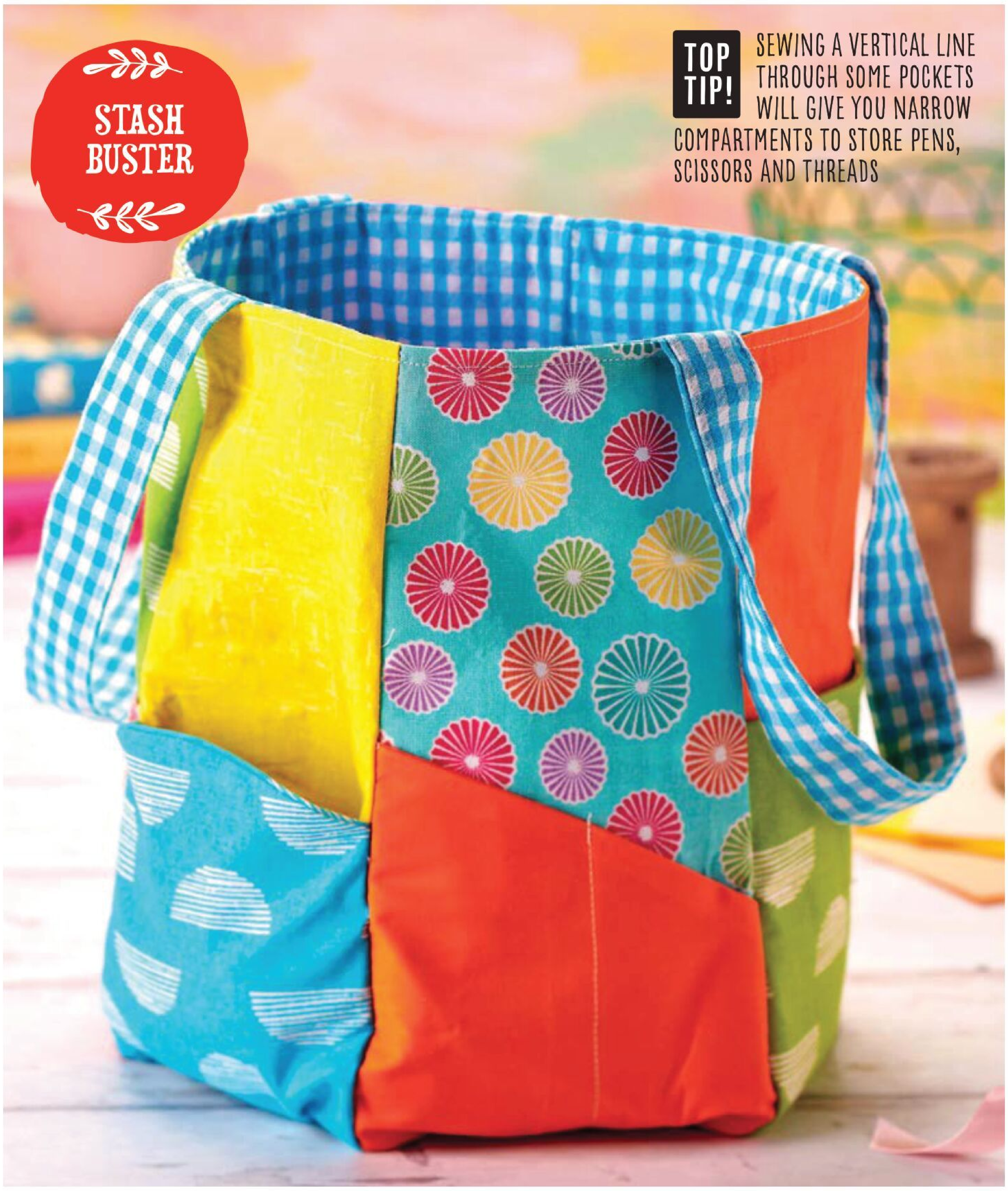
Stash bag

Keep your craft stash and tools organised with this practical pouch that also uses up all your fabric offcuts – win-win!

KIT LIST

- Fabric scraps or fat quarters
- Cotton lining fabric
- Heavy weight interfacing
- Matching machine thread

NB: Use 10mm seam allowance unless stated otherwise



STASH BUSTER

TOP TIP! SEWING A VERTICAL LINE THROUGH SOME POCKETS WILL GIVE YOU NARROW COMPARTMENTS TO STORE PENS, SCISSORS AND THREADS

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Using the templates provided cut six pieces of coloured fabric. Use the template again to cut six pieces of cotton lining fabric. Interface all the outer fabric pieces with heavy weight interfacing.

2 Use the template again to cut two pieces for each pocket, using the pocket line. You can add a curved edge or angled edge to every pocket; just make sure your two pieces are opposites.

3 Cut two handle pieces measuring 10cm x 50cm. Fold the handle pieces in half lengthways, press, then fold the long outer edges into the middle and press again, hiding all the raw edges inside. Sew down both long sides close to the edge. You can add interfacing to your straps before sewing if you want to make them stronger.

4 Sew each style of pocket right sides together, only along to the top shaped edge. If you have a curved edge, don't forget to cut notches in the seam allowance to help with shaping. Turn all your pockets wrong sides together, then press.

5 Place each pocket on top of each outer piece. Tack stitch them close to the edge then sew a line approximately 12cm up from the point. This will create the bottom of your pocket.

6 Join all of the outer pieces together, sewing down the outer edge towards the point. Repeat this process until all six pieces are sewn together to make a bucket shape. Repeat this with all your lining pieces, but leave a 5-10cm gap in the middle of one long edge.

7 Place the handle in place on your outer pieces and then tack stitch them with all raw edges aligned. Place the lining and the outer pieces right sides together, making sure that the handles are inside. Sew around the top edge.

8 Turn the whole bag through the gap you left in the lining. Press the lining inside the bag. Hand sew the gap in the lining with a ladder stitch. Sew a neat line of stitching around the top edge of the bag.

> "If you're struggling to join all the main pieces together, sew two sets of three panels, then place these sets right sides together to sew one long line all the way around"

SOPHIA PALMER
DESIGNER

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Patchwork combo

Add a pop of colour and a dose of comfort to any room with this delightful duo

KIT LIST

★ Cotton fabric, Art Gallery Fabrics Signature Collection in oval and square elements ★ Backing fabric, white cotton ★ Medium-weight wadding ★ Cushion pad, 45cm square

Quilt: 76cm x 102cm; cushion: 46cm square

SQUARE QUILT

1 Cut 11cm squares from 12 contrasting fabrics, several 6cm wide strips from the same materials and four additional prints. Lay a strip of fabric on the left side of one square, right sides together, and stitch. Open out and trim the strip to the same depth as the square, then lay the remaining part of the strip across the bottom of the panel in the same way and repeat.

2 Keep adding strips of printed cotton to build up the size of the block, placing fabric on the left side of the square first so that the overlaps run in the same direction, then press and trim the edges. The finished block should measure 26cm square.

3 Cut quilt wadding, 25cm square, and pin it over the top, leaving a 5mm seam allowance around each edge. Use coordinating thread to topstitch both parts together along the seam lines, then add texture by stitching parallel lines 8mm apart over the first and third sets of patterned strips.

4 Create 11 more blocks in the same way, and arrange them in a three by four grid pattern, with each block facing the same direction. Attach the pieces, right sides together, with a 6mm seam allowance, then press and pin onto backing fabric.

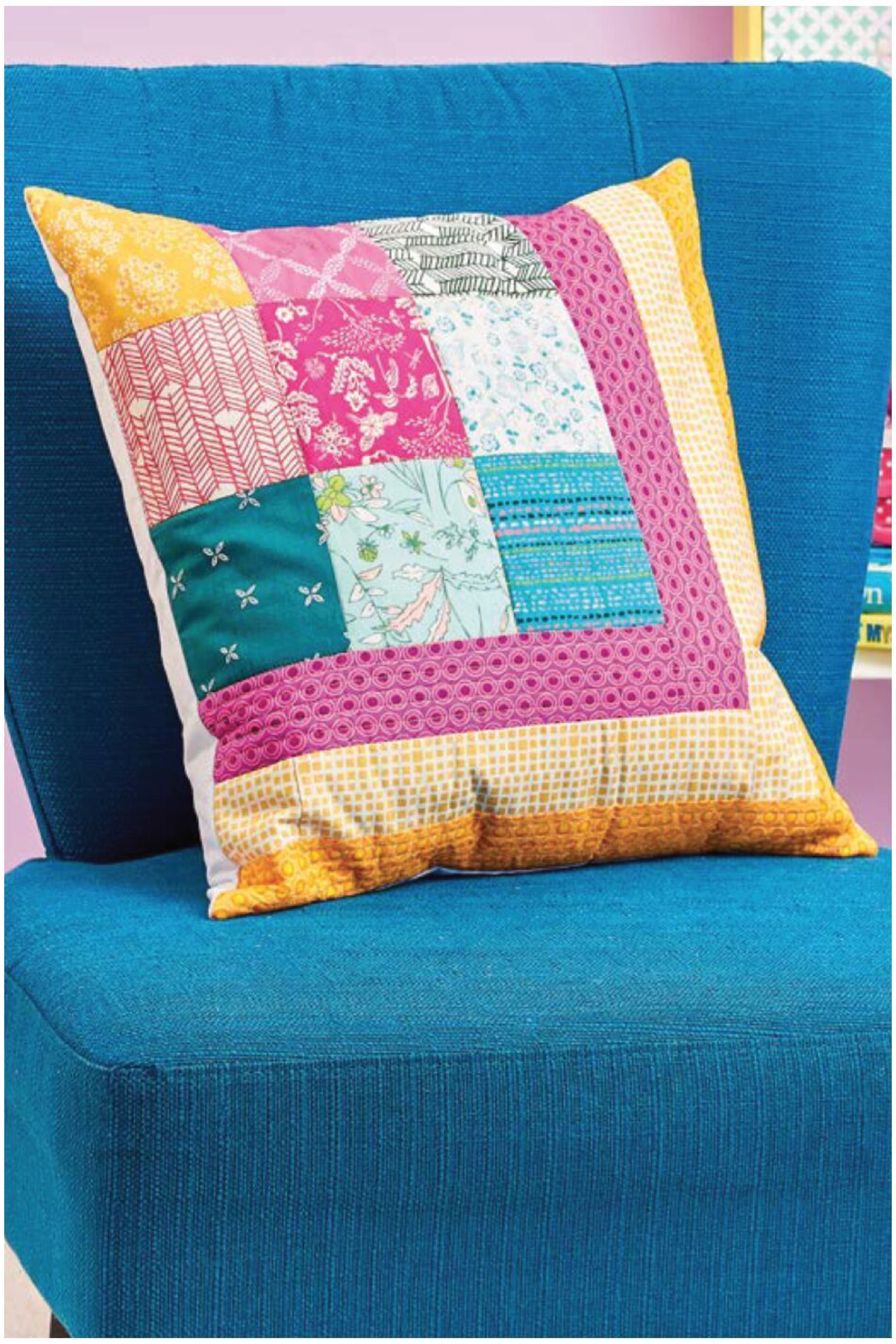
5 Tack the quilt to the backing with a 2mm seam allowance, and trim it to size. Cut several 3cm wide strips from squared element material, join the short ends to create binding, then sew it to the back of the quilt, mitring the corners as you do so. Fold the binding to the front, turn under 5mm on the raw edge and topstitch to secure.

CUSHION

1 Cut nine 11cm squares from contrasting cotton and sew them into a three by three block, right sides together. Add fabric strips in three designs to the edges of the left side and bottom of the block, then press.

2 Pin the block onto medium-weight wadding and topstitch along the seam lines, adding texture to the first and third set of strips like before. Trim the sides of the block, then tack the layers together at the edges.

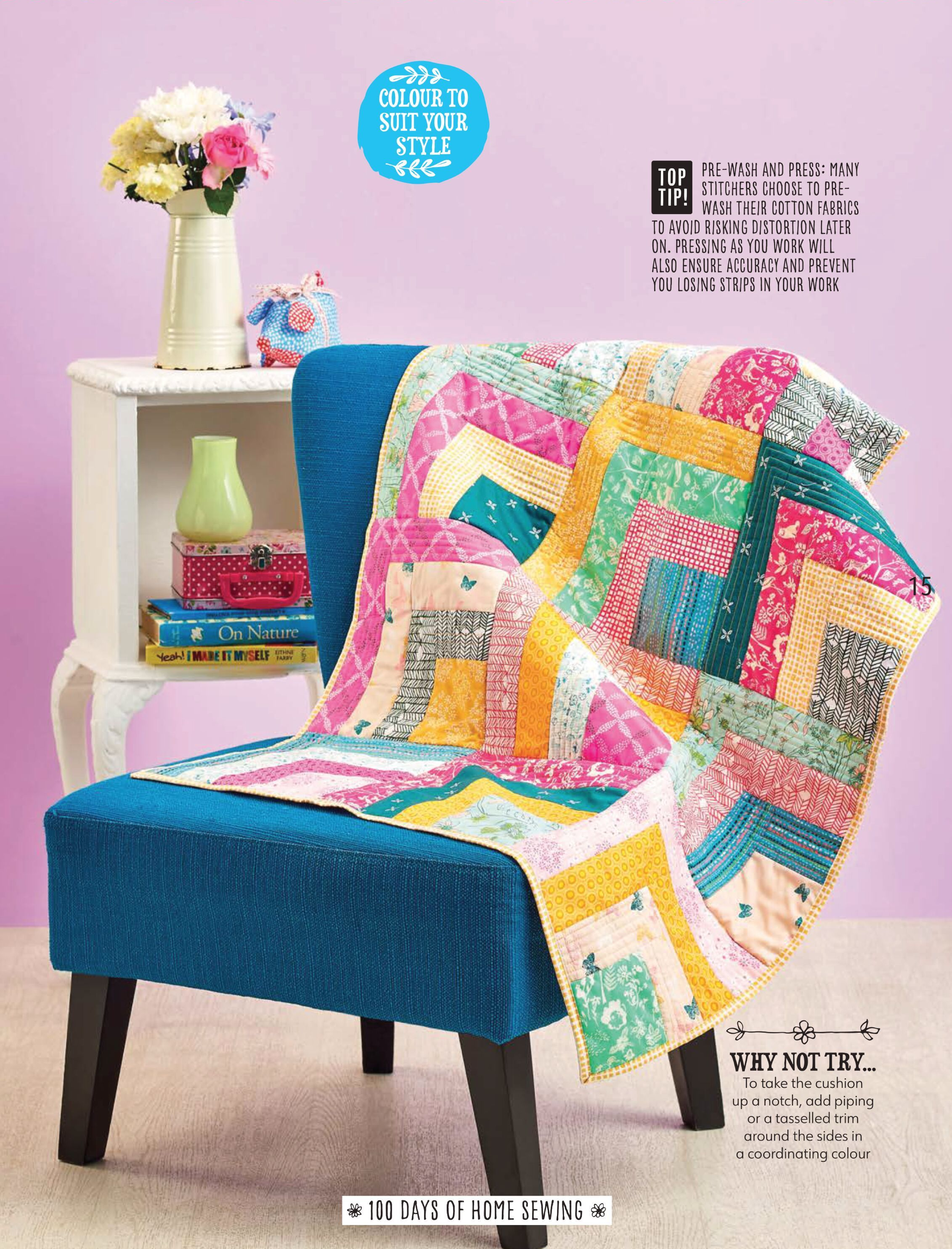
3 Cut two pieces of plain cotton, 36cm x 46cm, and double hem one long edge of each piece before laying them over the cushion block, right sides together, with the hemmed edges overlapping. Sew around the cushion, clip the corners and turn the case right sides out to create an envelope back. Slip a square pad inside the case, pushing the corners out and allowing the back of the case to overlap.



CLEAN CUTS

Accurate cutting makes or breaks your project. Following a few simple principles helps to ensure that you get outstanding results every time

★ Careful, smooth cuts around the pattern pieces are what you are trying to achieve; this will help the pieces fit together when you are making them up
★ Always aim to cut on a flat, smooth surface, and ensure that the scissors you are using are sharp. Use the full blade for the long, straight edges and work with smaller cuts around any curves
★ If you are right-handed, place your left hand on the pattern piece and fabric. Hold the scissor blades at right-angles to the fabric, and cut cleanly around each section. Reverse if you are left-handed



COLOUR TO SUIT YOUR STYLE

TOP TIP! PRE-WASH AND PRESS: MANY STITCHERS CHOOSE TO PRE-WASH THEIR COTTON FABRICS TO AVOID RISKING DISTORTION LATER ON. PRESSING AS YOU WORK WILL ALSO ENSURE ACCURACY AND PREVENT YOU LOSING STRIPS IN YOUR WORK

WHY NOT TRY...
To take the cushion up a notch, add piping or a tasselled trim around the sides in a coordinating colour

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Breakfast set

These homely cosies are perfect for keeping your boiled egg toasty and your coffee piping hot

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, four assorted prints ★ Wadding ★ Bias binding, two prints ★ Fusible webbing ★ Narrow piping cord ★ Ribbon ★ Net or lace

Cafetière cosy: 17cm x 33.5cm; egg cosy: 11.5cm tall

EGG COSY

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Using the templates as a guide, cut two bottom panels from raspberry fabric, two tops from blue fabric and two whole egg cosies from wadding.

2 Pin each blue top to a raspberry panel, right sides together, and sew a 5mm seam. Press the seams open. Pin wadding to the wrong side of each front and stitch a 3mm seam around each one.

3 Using the templates, cut two whole egg cosies from lining fabric, pin right sides together, and sew a 1cm seam around the curved edge. Trim 5mm off of the curve, then use pinking shears or snip into the seam allowance on the edge.

4 Pin the two front panels right sides together, and enclose a loop of bias binding at the top, pointing down with the raw ends visible. Sew a 5mm seam around the curved edge and snip into the curve. Turn right side out.

5 Carefully cut out a bee from the printed fabric, leaving a 1cm border around it. Iron webbing onto the reverse, pull off the protective backing, then trim close to the outline and place it on the right side of another larger piece of the same fabric. Iron to secure. Machine- or hand-embroider yellow and black details onto the bee, then add a piece of silver net or lace to the wings and stitch in place with pale grey thread.

6 Trim around the bee shape, taking care not to cut into the embroidery stitches, and attach to the cosy using a few stitches at the base of each wing. Push the lining into the cosy, wrong sides together. Pin and stitch the bottom raw edge of the cosy with bias binding.

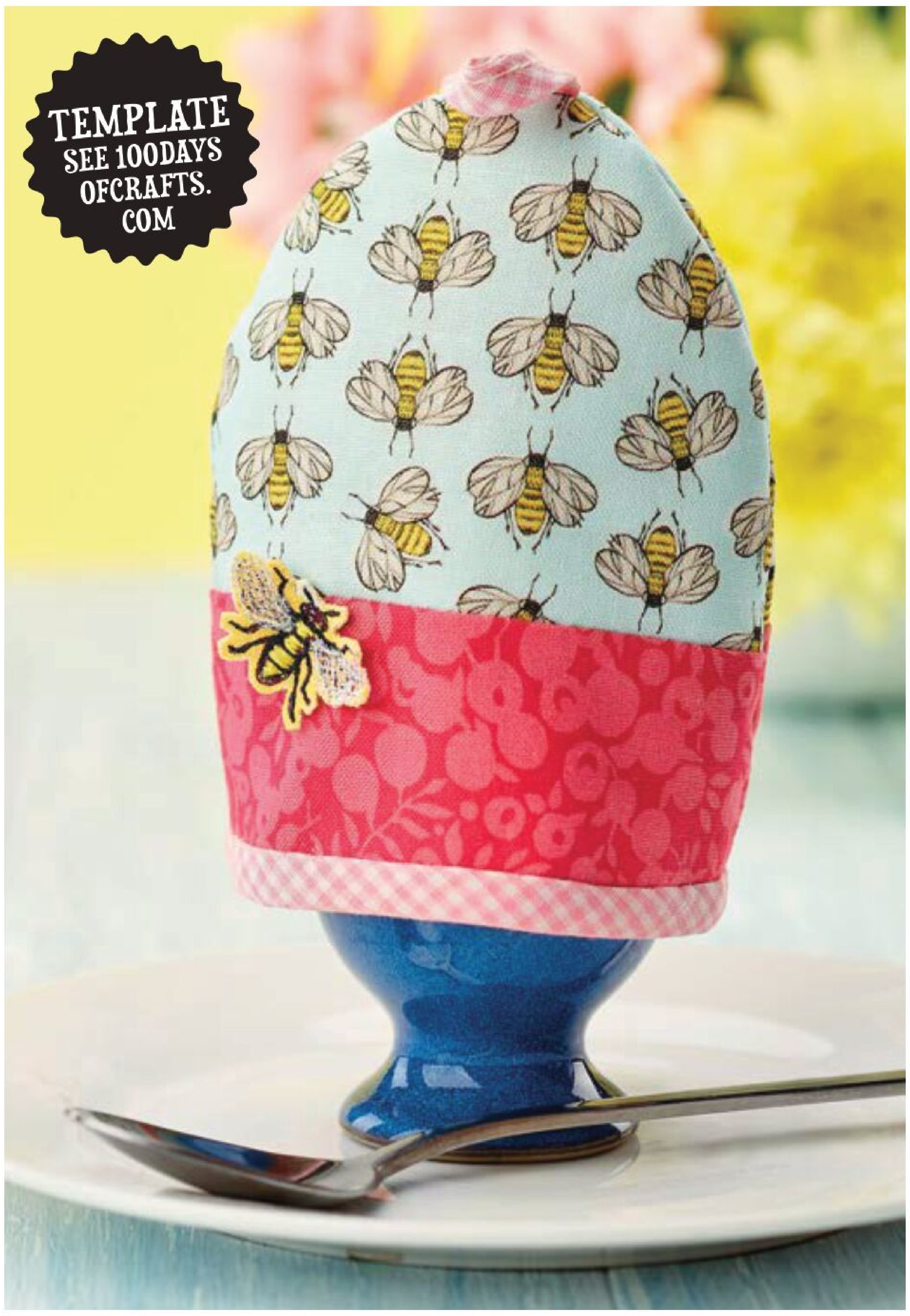
COFFEE COSY

1 Cut floral fabric, 5cm x 34cm, raspberry fabric, 3cm x 34cm, narrow piping cord, 34cm, and bee print yellow fabric, 12.5cm x 34cm, ensuring that a bee is in the top-centre of the yellow rectangle before you cut.

2 Lay the raspberry strip wrong side up, place the piping cord centrally along the length, and fold the fabric over to cover the cord, pinning it in place. Machine-sew along the length of fabric.

3 With right sides together, aligning the raw edges at the bottom, sandwich the raspberry strip between the yellow and floral fabrics and pin. Sew a 1cm seam along the cord. Fold the floral fabric down and press, then topstitch across in contrasting thread, just under the fold.

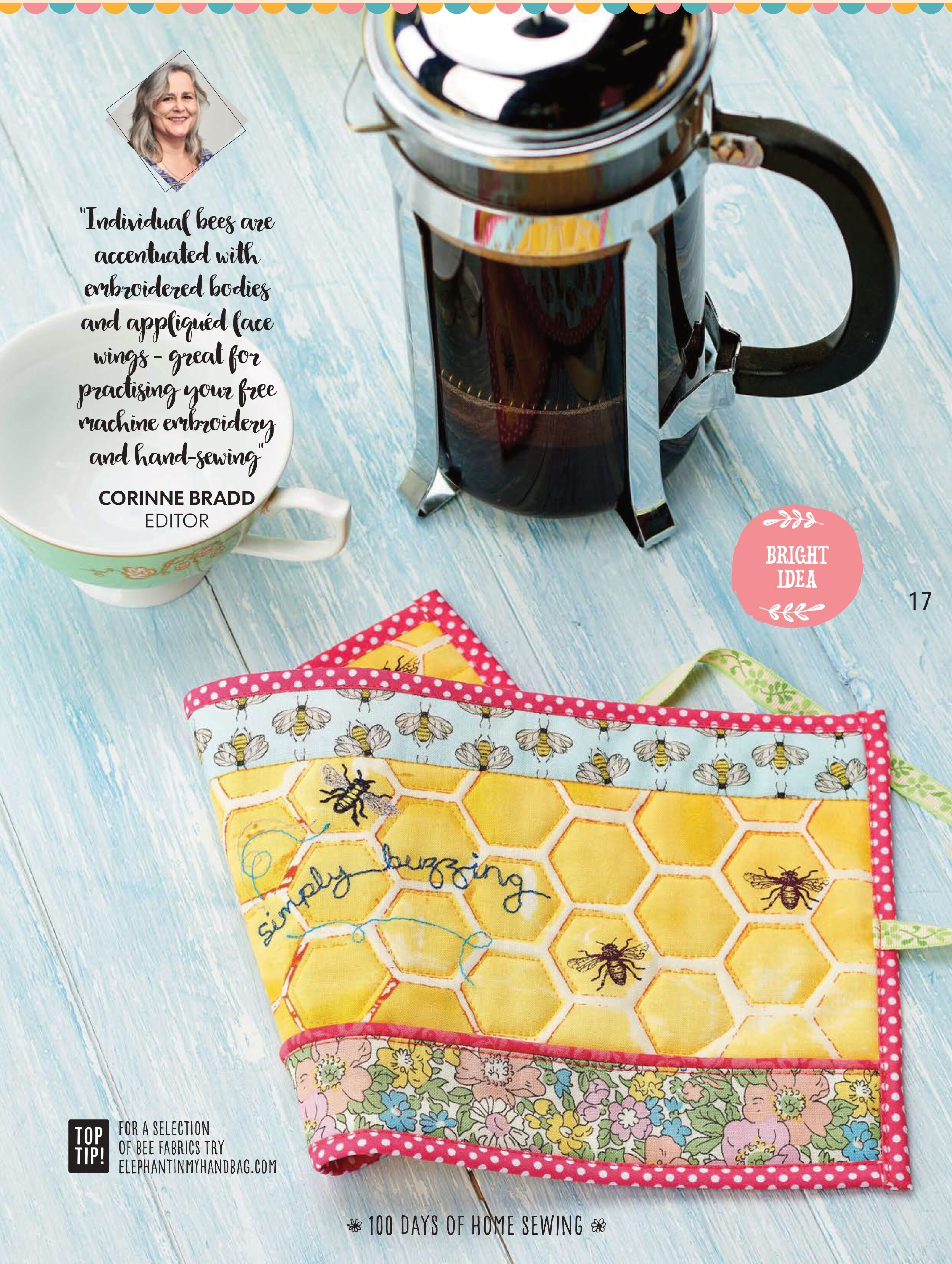
4 Cut blue fabric, 4cm x 34cm, and place it on top of the yellow, right sides together, aligning the raw edges at the top. Pin in place, then sew a 1cm seam across the top. Press the seam.


TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

5 Machine- or hand-embroider yellow and black details onto the top-centre bee, then add silver net or lace to the wings and stitch in place with pale grey thread. Trace the words *Simply buzzing* onto white tissue paper or write them directly onto the fabric with a water-soluble pen. Machine-stitch over the letters, then tear off the paper or wipe the pen marks away with water.

6 Cut wadding the same size as the finished front and backing fabric slightly larger. Sandwich the wadding between the front and back panel, wrong sides together, and pin. Using yellow thread, machine-sew around random hexagons on the front, then topstitch along the top seam. Trim the back piece to the same size as the front.

7 Pin and stitch contrasting bias binding to the top and bottom edges of the cosy. Cut two ribbon ties, 28cm long, and pin one on each side of the front, at the halfway point. Cover the sides with bias binding, enclosing the ties.



"Individual bees are accentuated with embroidered bodies and appliquéd face wings – great for practising your free machine embroidery and hand-sewing"

CORINNE BRADD
EDITOR

BRIGHT IDEA

TOP TIP! FOR A SELECTION OF BEE FABRICS TRY ELEPHANTINMYHANDBAG.COM

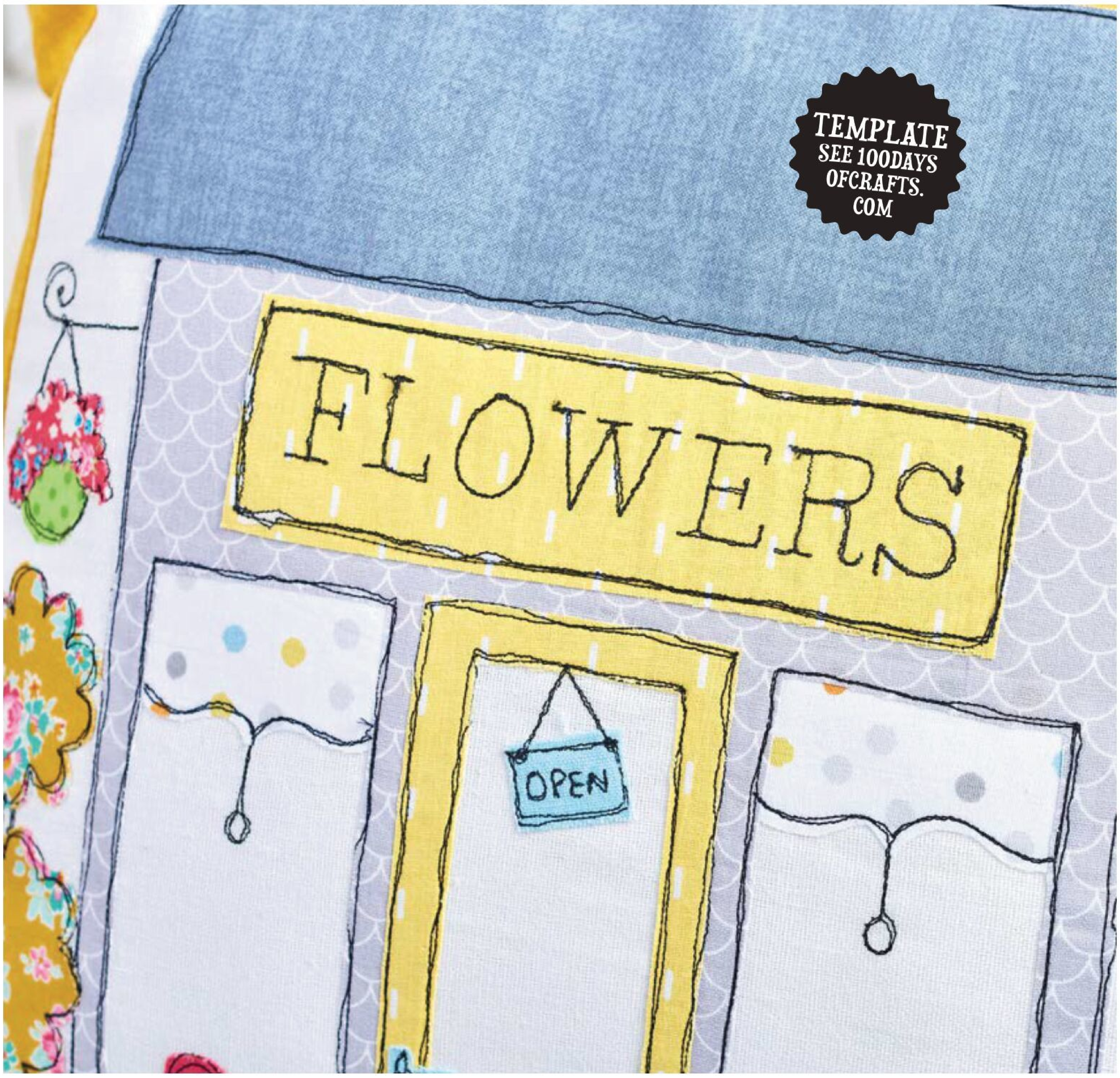
DESIGNER **HELEN NEWTON**

Flower shop cushion

Master machine embroidery with this enchanting design idea

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: cream, yellow, patterned ★ Fusible webbing ★ Stabiliser ★ Non-permanent fabric marker pen ★ Cushion pad



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

1 Cut one 32cm square of cream fabric for the front, then out of yellow fabric, trim one piece, 5cm x 32cm, and one, 5cm x 40cm. For the envelope back, cut out two rectangles, 28cm x 40cm, from cream fabric.

2 Place the short border piece along the top of the front panel, right sides together and stitch along the top edge. Press the seam towards the border. Repeat with the bottom border piece; you will now have a yellow stripe across the top and bottom of the centre panel. Add the two longer side border pieces in the same way, right sides together, pressing the seam allowance onto the border.

3 Trace each template onto fusible webbing, drawing on the paper side. Trim around each one, leaving a small margin.

4 Iron on each fusible webbing template to the wrong side of your chosen fabric and cut out following the template lines. Leave the paper backing on for the time being. Snip the window and door from the template where indicated with a #.

5 Remove the paper backing from the shop, roof, door frame, blinds and doorstep. Arrange centrally on the front panel, tucking the blinds behind the widow apertures. Press to fix in place and outline with free-motion embroidery or satin stitch. If using free-motion embroidery, place the stabiliser under the cushion front before sewing.

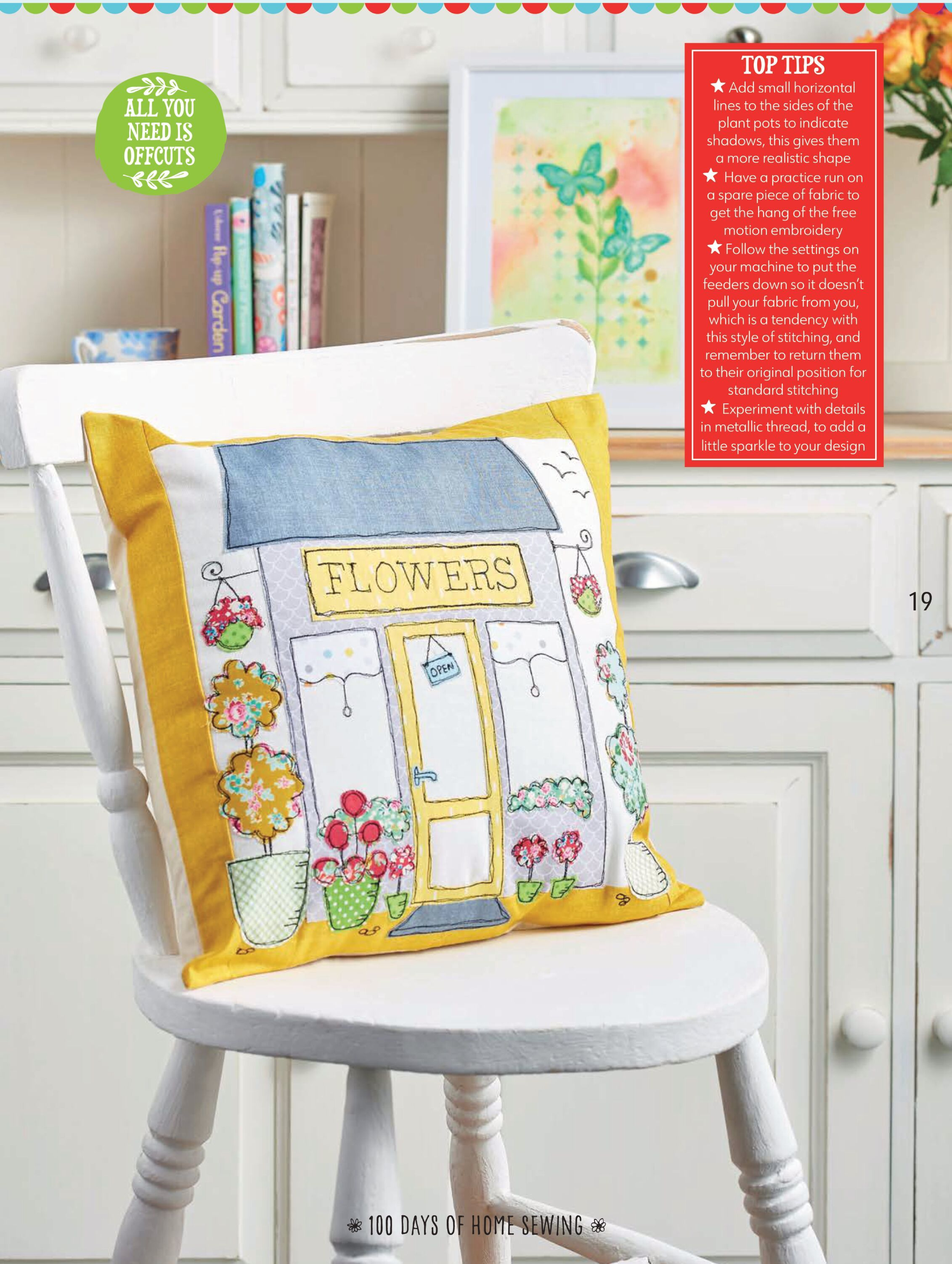
6 Remove the paper backing from the flowers, hanging baskets, plant pots and window boxes, and apply to the design. Add the hanging basket brackets, birds, pebbles, flower stems and pulls on the blinds using free-motion or hand stitching. Draw these on before sewing; this will be removed when ironed.

7 Trace the 'flowers' lettering onto fabric and machine stitch or sew onto the panel by hand. Apply fusible webbing to the back and fix onto the shop front, centrally above the door. Outline with black stitching to secure in place. Turn over the cover front and tear away the stabiliser.

8 Press under 6mm along one long straight edge of the back panel, fold over again 1cm and press. Stitch the hem close to the fold. Repeat with the other back panel. Lay the two back panels onto the front panel, right sides together, matching raw edges, so they overlap at the centre.

9 Stitch around all four side edges. Trim away excess fabric at each corner by snipping at 45°. Zig-zag all the way around the raw edges to prevent fraying. Turn right side out and press. Insert pad to finish.

ALL YOU NEED IS OFFCUTS



TOP TIPS

- ★ Add small horizontal lines to the sides of the plant pots to indicate shadows, this gives them a more realistic shape
- ★ Have a practice run on a spare piece of fabric to get the hang of the free motion embroidery
- ★ Follow the settings on your machine to put the feeders down so it doesn't pull your fabric from you, which is a tendency with this style of stitching, and remember to return them to their original position for standard stitching
- ★ Experiment with details in metallic thread, to add a little sparkle to your design

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Felt succulents

You don't need to be green fingered to grow these beauties!

KIT LIST

★ Felt, assorted colours ★ Pom-pom trim ★ Fibre filling ★ Glue gun ★ Card ★ Small food tin ★ Florist's wire ★ Tape measure

CACTUS

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. From green felt, cut six from the leaf one template and six pieces slightly bigger than leaf one. Place together in pairs with the bigger piece underneath, and sew all the way around, leaving the bottom edge unstitched. Stuff firmly up to the dashed line. Repeat this process five times for the leaf two template, five for leaf three and once for leaf four.

2 Lay the number one leaves into a circle, unstuffed ends overlapping, and hand sew in place. Repeat with the rest of the leaves, layering the number two leaves next, then the number three leaves. Cut two number five leaves from green felt and secure the base of each to the base of the stuffed number four leaf. Glue this to the top of the layered leaves.

3 Measure the height and add 1.5cm to the bottom and 2cm to the top. Use these measurements to cut a rectangle from coral felt. Stitch a length of pom-pom trim across the width, 2cm from the top edge. Pin the short ends together, wrong side out, and sew a 5mm seam. Trim off the excess close to the stitch line.

4 Measure the diameter of the tin and add 1.5cm, then use this measurement to cut out a circle from coral felt. Pin, right sides together, at the base of the pot. Sew a 5mm seam all the way around and trim off the excess, then turn the pot right side out. Fold the top edge over to line up with the pom-pom trim and stitch. Insert the tin.

5 Measure around the inner lip of the tin, then use this to cut a circle from thin card. Cover this with brown felt, then place on top of the tin and secure with glue. Stick the leaves over the top. Cut a few small pebble shapes from grey and beige felt and adhere around the leaves.

ALOE VERA

1 Using the aloe vera templates, cut two of the largest leaves from green felt. Place a 14cm length of florist's wire down the middle of each. Leaving a 2cm gap at the top, fold the sides of the felt over to trap the wire.

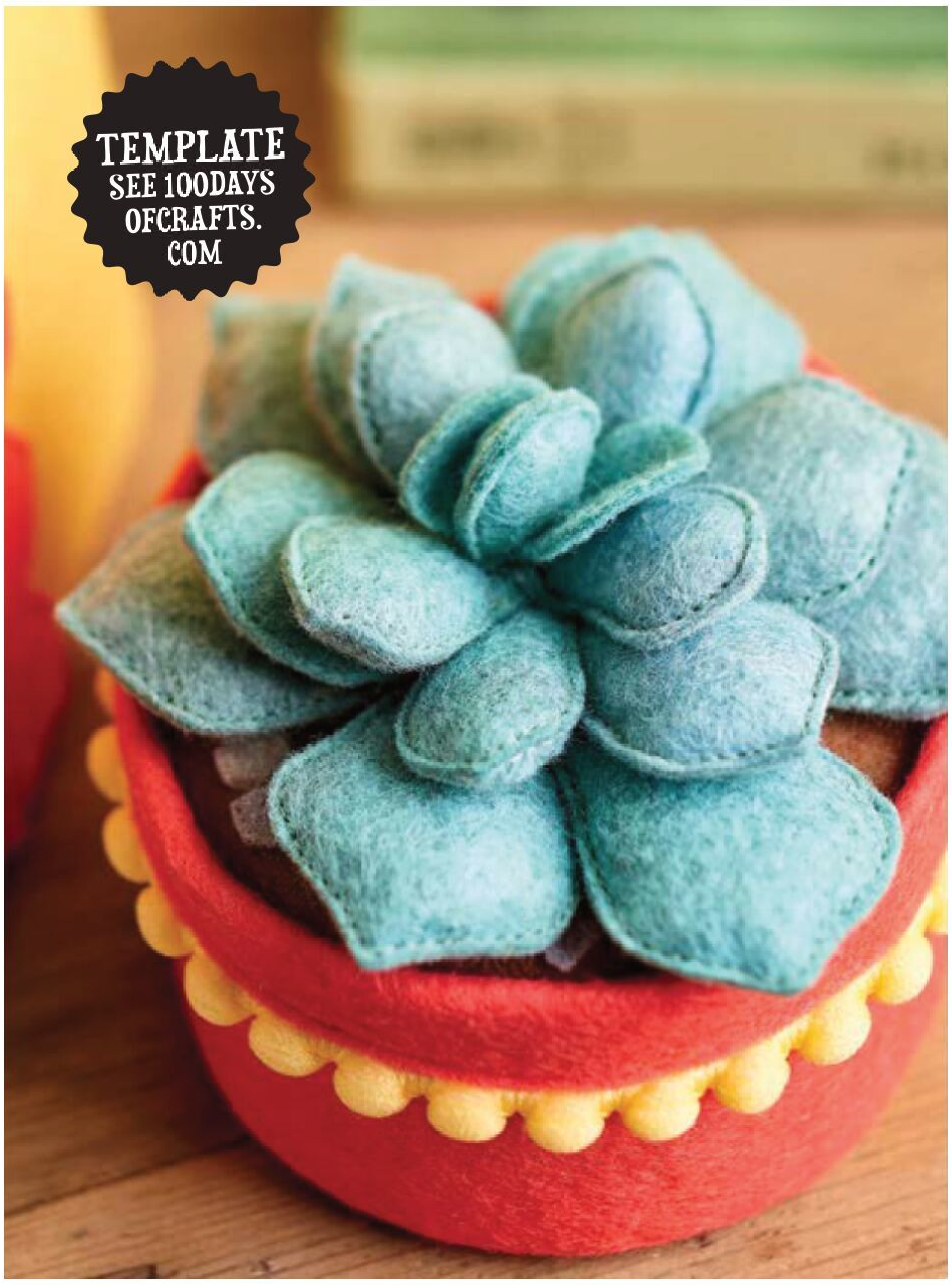
2 Sew a seam down the middle to trap it. Lay both leaves open, with the covered wire ridge right side up. Use the template markings to hand sew details using two shades of green embroidery thread.

3 Cut two of the number two leaves from light green felt. Lay each onto the wrong side of the number one leaves, lining up at one side. Starting at the bottom, sew up the side, cose to the edge, until you reach the tip. Pull the other side to line up and stitch down, leaving the bottom unstitched.

4 Repeat this process to make the three smaller leaves, using the number three and four leaves in different shades of green. Use a length of wire, 11cm. Firmly stuff each leaf. Curl the remaining length of wire around and bend it to 90 degrees so that it provides a base underneath the wadding.

5 Use thick card to make a 9cm square box, without a top. Cut two 11cm x 15cm pieces from yellow felt and two from coral. Sew together, alternating the colours. Cut two scallop pieces from coral and two from yellow. Sew the coral scallops onto the left side of the yellow squares, and the yellow scallops onto the coral.

6 Pin and stitch, right sides together. Cut a felt square, 1.5cm bigger than the base of the pot, and sew right sides together. Trim off the excess at the corners and turn right side out. Trim a square from card to fit the top of the pot and cover with brown felt. Secure on top of the pot and stick each aloe leaf over the top. Snip a few small pebble shapes from grey and beige felt and adhere around the leaves.



TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

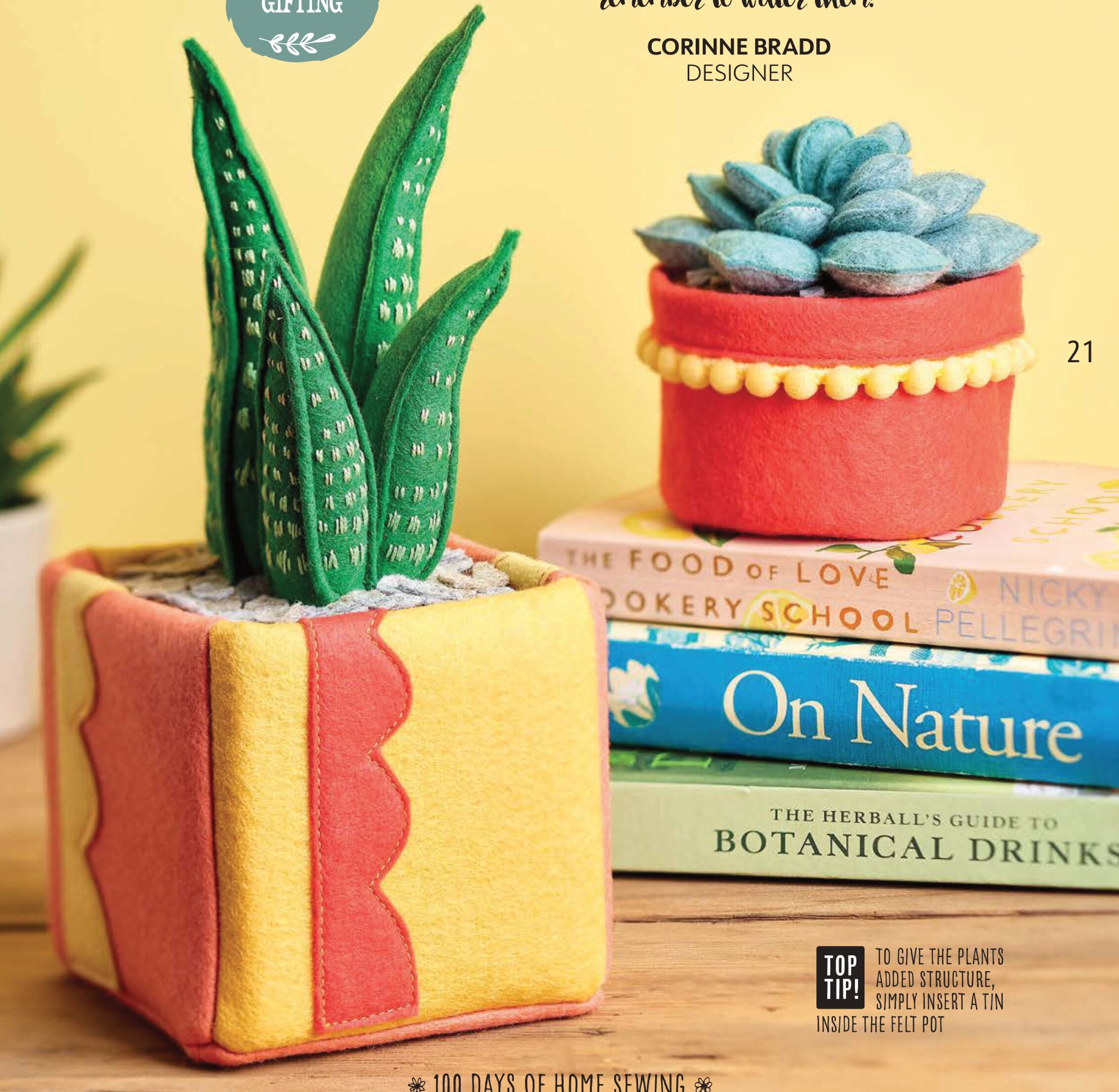
WHY NOT TRY...

Scale down the templates to create adorable mini plants to go with the bigger versions

"These colourful plants are sure to brighten up any windowsill or shelf, and the best part is you never have to remember to water them!"

CORINNE BRADD
DESIGNER

GREAT FOR GIFTING


THE FOOD OF LOVE COOKERY SCHOOL
NICKY PELLEGRINO
On Nature
THE HERBALL'S GUIDE TO BOTANICAL DRINKS

TOP TIP! TO GIVE THE PLANTS ADDED STRUCTURE, SIMPLY INSERT A TIN INSIDE THE FELT POT

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Vanity case

Whether you're decluttering your dresser or popping to the gym, this clever design will store all your cosmetics safely

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: cotton; green, 50cm; peach, 50cm; floral, fat eighth; pink check, fat eighth ★ Fusible foam stabiliser, 25cm x 1.4m ★ Bias binding ★ Mini pom-pom trim, pink, 75cm ★ Zip, 56cm

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Use the oval template provided to cut the base and top; two pieces from the fusible foam stabiliser, three from green fabric and one from peach fabric. Place one stabiliser piece in between two green pieces wrong sides together and the second stabiliser in between the green and peach pieces, wrong sides together. Following the stabiliser instructions, iron on both sides to fuse the adhesive, then sew a 3mm seam all the way around. Mark the four points shown on the template with a water erasable pen.

2 Cut floral fabric, 12.5cm x 63.5cm. Snip pink check fabric, 4cm x 63.5cm. Pin them right sides together along the bottom and sew a 1cm seam. Press the seam open on the back. Topstitch in pink thread across the seam. Cut green fabric, 2.5cm x 63.5cm. Pin it right sides together along the top of the floral fabric and sew a 1cm seam. Press on the reverse. Topstitch across the seam in green thread.

3 Cut the stabiliser, 15cm x 63.5cm. Place the main section right side up on top of the stabiliser so the bottom raw edge of the pink check fabric matches the edge of it; there will be an overhang of 1.5cm of the green fabric across the top. Following the stabiliser instructions, iron the surface to bond it. Cut green fabric for the lining the same size, 16.5cm x 63.5cm.

4 Cut two pieces of green fabric, 6cm x 63.5cm. Back one of the pieces with the stabiliser. Lay the unbacked piece the right side up and horizontally. Take your zip and lay it the right way up with the closed zip pull on the left, on top of the green piece so the top edge of the zip aligns with the long raw edge of the fabric. Lay the backed piece of green fabric right side down on top of the zip so that all three top edges align. Pin in place and use a zipper foot to machine stitch along the side of the zipper teeth, sew across the full 63.5cm. Fold the two pieces back wrong sides together, press with the iron, then topstitch along the fold line of the backed piece.

5 Take the green lining from Step 3 and lay it horizontally, right side up. Lay the remaining side of the zip right side up, with the zip to the left so the edge of the zip aligns with the bottom raw edge of the fabric. Lay the floral piece horizontally, wrong side up to match the edge of the zip and pin. Use a zipper foot to machine stitch all the way across, close to the teeth of the zip, then fold the pieces back and topstitch. Cut floral fabric and green lining fabric, 12.5cm x 20cm. Back the floral piece with stabiliser.

6 With the main body of the case laid horizontally, right side up, pin the stabiliser floral back panel, right side down, 4cm from the left hand end. Open the zip by 15cm so the zip pull is out of the way. Pin the green piece right sides together with the lining on the other side 4cm from the left. Sew a 1cm seam, remove the excess, then fold them both back and top stitch along the fold line on the front.

7 With the main body laid right side up, take hold of the raw edge of the stabilised floral and fold it across to the right hand side of the main body, right sides together, 4cm from the edge. Fold the green piece out of the way. Sew a 1cm seam, remove excess, then topstitch. Topstitch four lines down the back panel to secure the overlap ends to it. With the main body wrong side out, fold the remaining raw edge of the green piece over by 5mm, iron to crease, pin it in place to line the back panel. Topstitch by hand to finish the main body.

8 With the body wrong side out, squash flat, with the back panel central and mark the middle front, middle back and sides with a water soluble pen along the bottom raw edge. Take the base from Step 1, match up the points and pin it right sides together with the main body. Sew a 1cm seam all the way around. Trim the seam to 5mm with pinking shears. Starting at the back, sew bias tape around the bottom to cover the raw edge.

9 Cut two pieces of pink check fabric, 5.5cm x 19cm, and place right sides together. Cut stabiliser, 3.5cm x 18.5cm and place it in the middle on the wrong side of the pink. Sew all the way around 5mm in from the edge of the stabiliser leaving a 4cm gap on one side for turning. Trim the excess fabric across the corners and turn right side out. Close the gap by hand-stitching. Iron.

10 Take the top piece from Step 1, allowing for an arch in the handle, pin the handle across the top in the middle, secure each end by machine stitching a square with a cross through the middle. To attach the top, open the zip and follow the instructions from Step 8. Topstitch. Cover the raw edge with bias binding. Hand sew the pom-pom trim around the edge to finish.

GLAMOUR ON THE GO

WHY NOT TRY...

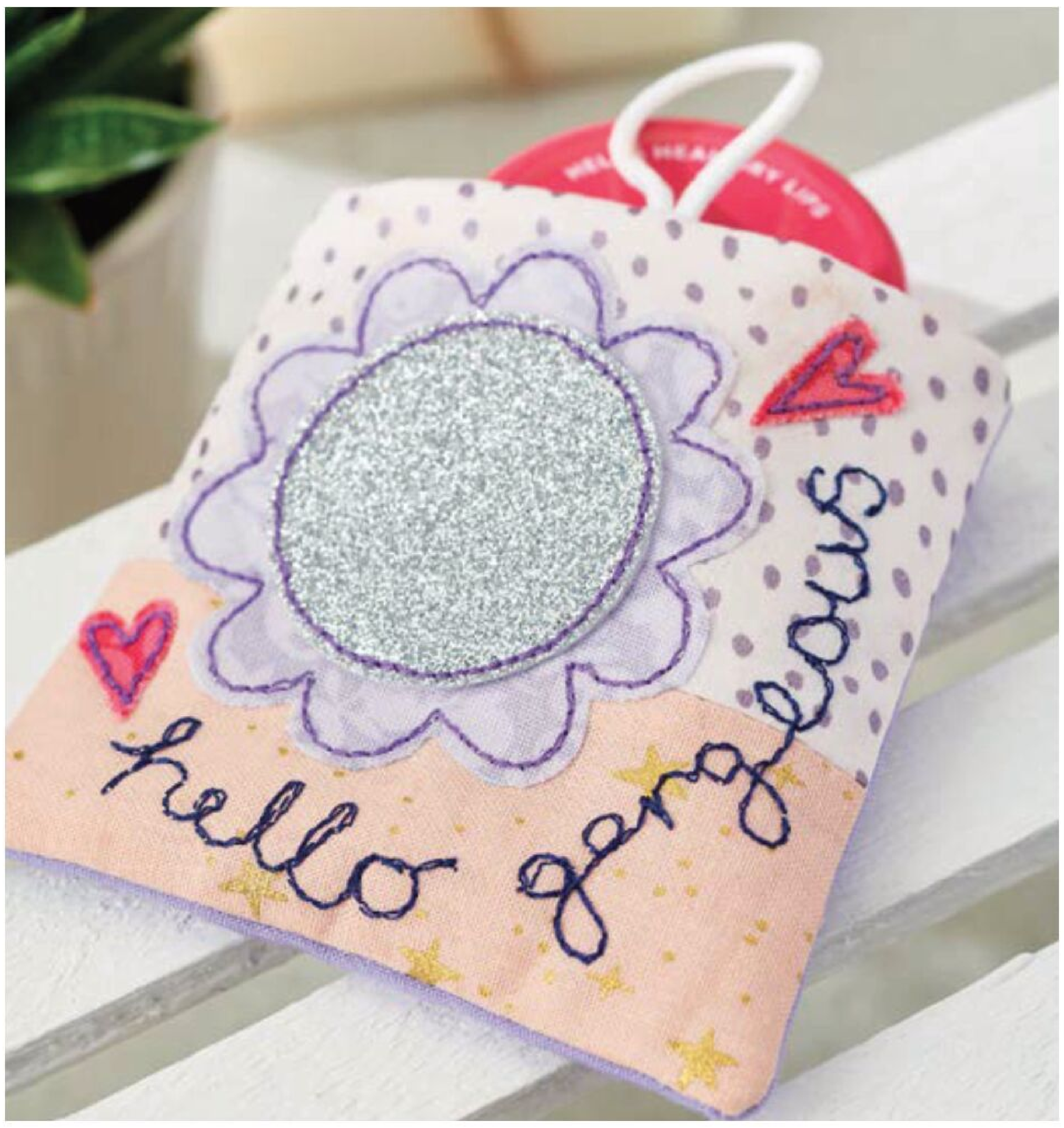
If you're not a fan of the 'quilted' look the interfacing gives after it's been turned inside out a few times, don't iron the main fabric onto the interfacing, just use it to support the fabric

TOP TIP! STITCH ELASTIC LOOPS INSIDE THE LID OF THIS CASE TO TIDY AWAY COTTON BUDS AND MAKE-UP BRUSHES

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Cosmetics duo

Give your beauty regime a refresh with this cute makeup bag with a coordinating compact mirror pouch



KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: lilac, spotty lilac, spotty pink; scraps, blue, dark pink, yellow ★ Felt, glitter: silver, purple, gold ★ Zip, lilac, 15cm ★ Wadding ★ Acid-free glue stick ★ Lightweight iron on interfacing ★ Button, 2cm ★ Elastic cord

MIRROR POUCH

1 Download and print the templates from 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut a 5cm x 10cm piece of blush fabric and a 6.5cm x 10cm piece of lilac spot fabric. Pin, right sides together, to create the front of the pouch. Sew a 5mm seam and press on the reverse.

2 Cut a flower from lilac fabric and two hearts from pink, then back with interfacing. Pin in place and machine sew around the edges twice using contrasting thread. Cut a 4cm circle from silver glitter felt and secure on top of the flower. Copy the text template onto white tissue. Pin in place, then stitch over the words twice. Tear the tissue away and press.

3 Use the finished front as a template to cut out two pieces of wadding, two linings and a back from plain lilac. Layer a piece of wadding, a plain lilac back piece and the finished front right sides together, then pin. Sew a 5mm seam down both sides and across the bottom. Cut excess fabric from the bottom corners and trim the excess wadding up to the stitch line.

4 Pin the two lilac lining pieces right sides together. Sew a 7mm seam down both sides and across the bottom. Cut the excess fabric from the bottom two corners and turn right side out. Place the lining inside the pouch, right sides together and aligning the seams.

5 Place the loop of a 10cm length of elastic cord in between the front of the pouch and the and lining, with the raw end sticking out 1cm. Pin around the top raw edges, stitch a 5mm seam around the top, leaving a turning 5cm gap. Turn right side out, push all the corners out then close the gap. Sew a button in place onto the back.

MAKEUP BAG

1 Using the templates, cut a 12.5cm x 26cm panel from blush fabric, a 4cm x 26cm panel from lilac spot fabric and an 8.5cm x 26cm panel from plain lilac fabric. Pin, right sides together, to create the front of the pouch. Stitch, then press the seams open on the reverse.

2 Cut out all of the makeup pieces, using the image as a colour guide. Back each with iron on interfacing, apart from the glitter felt. Arrange as shown, machine stitch each in place, then press. Copy the text template onto white tissue. Pin in place on the bag, then machine or hand stitch over the words twice. Tear the tissue away and press.

3 Use the finished front of the bag as a template to cut two linings from plain lilac fabric, a back from blush fabric and two pieces of wadding, all the same size. Place a piece of wadding under the finished front and quilt around the edges of each appliqué piece.

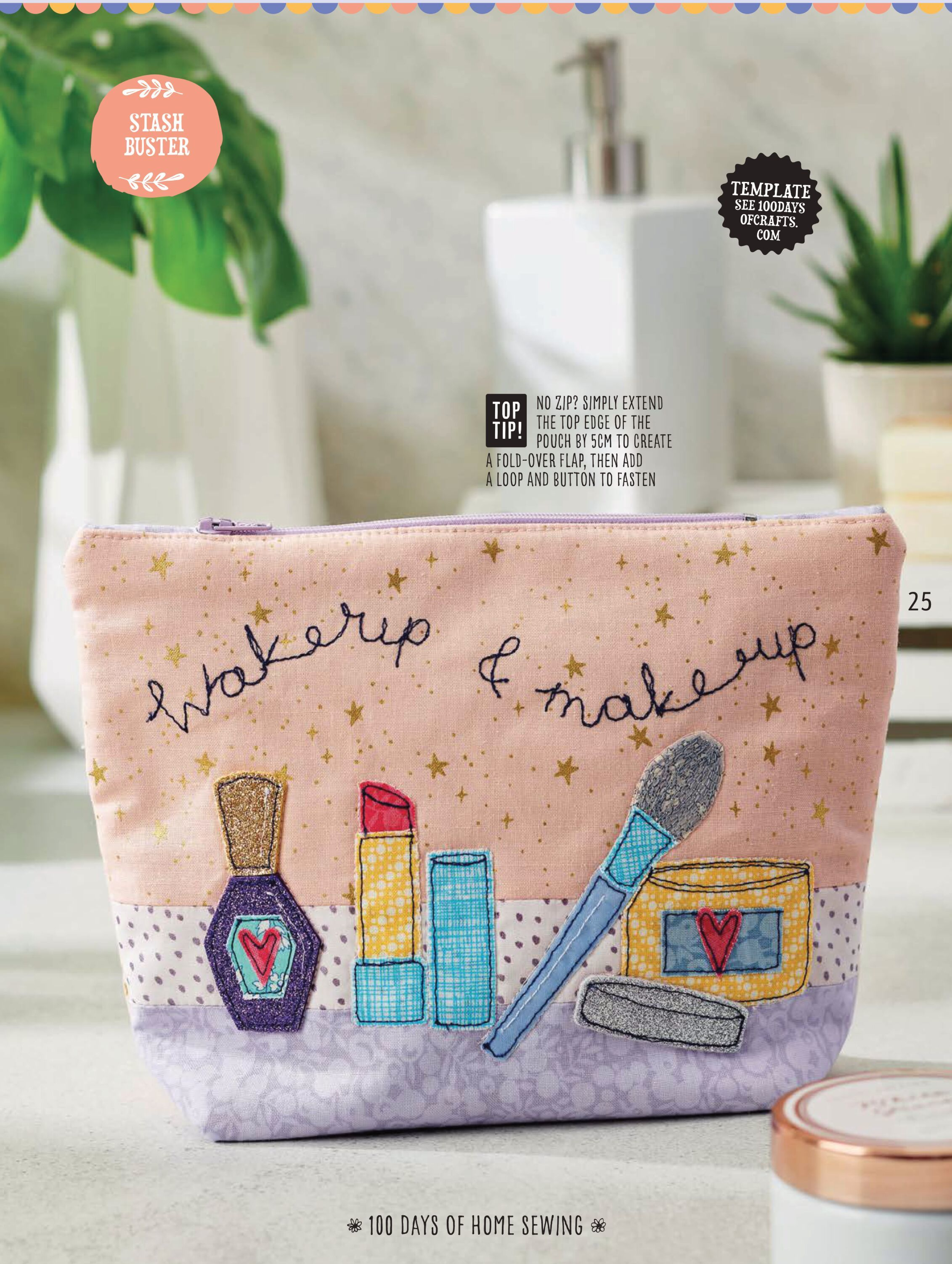
4 To make the zip the same length as the width of the pouch, cut two 3.5cm x 11cm pieces of lilac fabric and iron a 5mm flap onto the wrong side of each end. Fold each piece in half, wrong sides together, and iron to crease. Place one over each end of the zip and stitch across the fold line of the flaps to secure.

5 To attach the zip, place the finished front, right side up, on a piece of wadding. Lay the zip right side down along the top edge. Place a piece of lining fabric over the top, right side down, making sure that the edge lines up with the zip edge. Pin the zip in place. Use a zipper foot to sew along the top edge of the zip.

6 Repeat the process for the other side. Layer wadding, the main back fabric right side up, the zip right side down and then the lining right side down. Pin together, then sew along the top edge to attach the zip. Top stitch across both sides.

7 Open the zip halfway. Lay the fabric sides of the zip out flat and cut a 3.5cm square from each of the corners. Bring the lining pieces right sides together and pin, then bring the main fabric pieces and wadding right sides together and pin.

8 Using a 5mm seam allowance, sew along the top, bottom and both sides, leaving an 8cm opening at the bottom of the lining. Do not stitch the squares. With each square in turn, pinch the corners together, matching the side seam to the bottom seam. Pin, then sew across a 5mm seam. Trim across the corners. Turn through to the right side and stitch the gap closed.



STASH BUSTER

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

TOP TIP! NO ZIP? SIMPLY EXTEND THE TOP EDGE OF THE POUCH BY 5CM TO CREATE A FOLD-OVER FLAP, THEN ADD A LOOP AND BUTTON TO FASTEN

DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Bargello set

Give your interiors a colourful update with embroidery laid out in geometric and vibrant patterns

MINDFUL MAKE

KIT LIST

- ★ 10 count plastic canvas
- ★ Tapestry wool: pink, yellow, orange, turquoise, white
- ★ Size 20 blunt end embroidery needle
- ★ Printed fabric
- ★ Ribbon
- ★ Fine beading wire
- ★ Sewing machine and matching thread

PLANTER

1 From the plastic canvas, cut a rectangle measuring 21 squares wide and 94 squares long, making sure that the edges are smooth and free from any sharp points. The chart is designed to fit around a small tin but can be adjusted to fit your plant. The pattern is repeated along the rectangle six times.

2 Using the chart found at 100daysofcrafts.com, start stitching. Leave the first vertical row of holes empty, and there will be three empty rows at the end of the rectangle after the embroidery is complete. These will be used to connect the two ends together. Start by stitching the turquoise zig-zag line first as then the other colours will be easier to fill in.

3 Overlap the empty holes at the beginning of the work over the three empty rows at the end. Thread your needle with yarn and stitch through both layers to connect the two ends together. At the top, reverse the direction of your stitches to fill in the empty holes. Secure the end of the yarn firmly. Thread your needle with pink yarn, then over sew all the way around the top and base of the planter to complete.

BOOKMARK

1 From the plastic canvas, cut a strip measuring 17 squares wide and 121 long. The bargello pattern is embroidered in three different coloured yarns and the colour combination is repeated up to the top of the strip. The pattern is made from vertical stitches worked over four holes in the canvas.

2 Using the chart, count up from the base of the plastic canvas strip to the top of the first stitch. Thread your needle with the yarn and pass it up from the back of the plastic strip leaving a tail of yarn, approximately 3cm long. Hold onto this tail while you pass the needle through to the back, four holes down from the entry point. Make another stitch next to the first, then follow the stitch sequence from the chart to create the first row.

3 The tail of thread will be secured by the stitches made in the first row. At the end of the row, pass the needle through the back of the stitches and snip off the excess to secure the end of the yarn. The next two rows use different coloured yarn, but are stitched in the exact same way. Repeat this sequence nine more time to fill the strip.

4 At the top edge, fill the space with the same sequence of colours, but cut the pattern off to create a flat edge. At the base of the bookmark, trim off the excess plastic canvas following the shape of the pattern. Cut 17, 15cm lengths of blue yarn, then pass a looped length of beading wire through the first hole at the beginning of the pointed end of the bookmark. Thread a looped piece of yarn through the loop of the wire, then pull the yarn through the hole.

5 Remove the wire, then pass the end of the yarn through the loop before pulling tight to create a knot. Repeat the process until all 17 holes are filled with yarn, creating a fringe. Trim the ends to make a neat, straight edge. Thread your needle and over sew into all the remaining outer empty holes around the three remaining edges of the bookmark to complete.

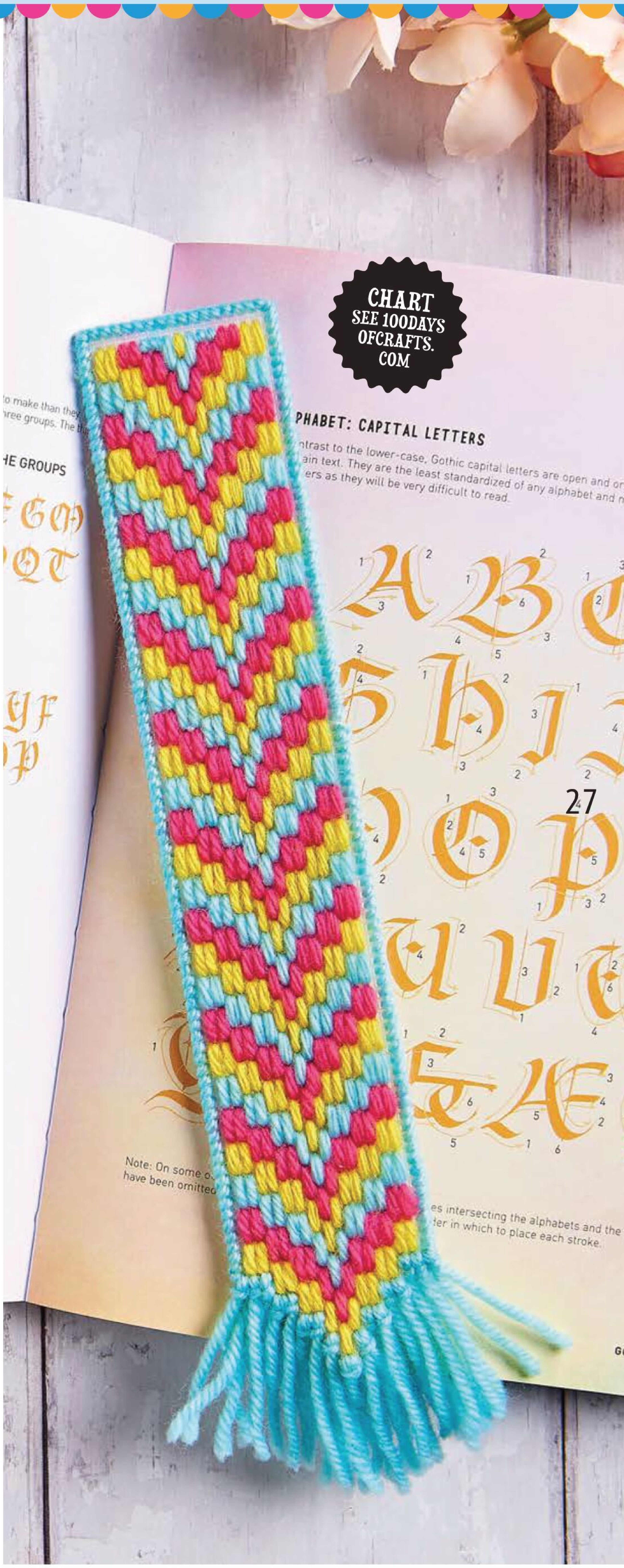
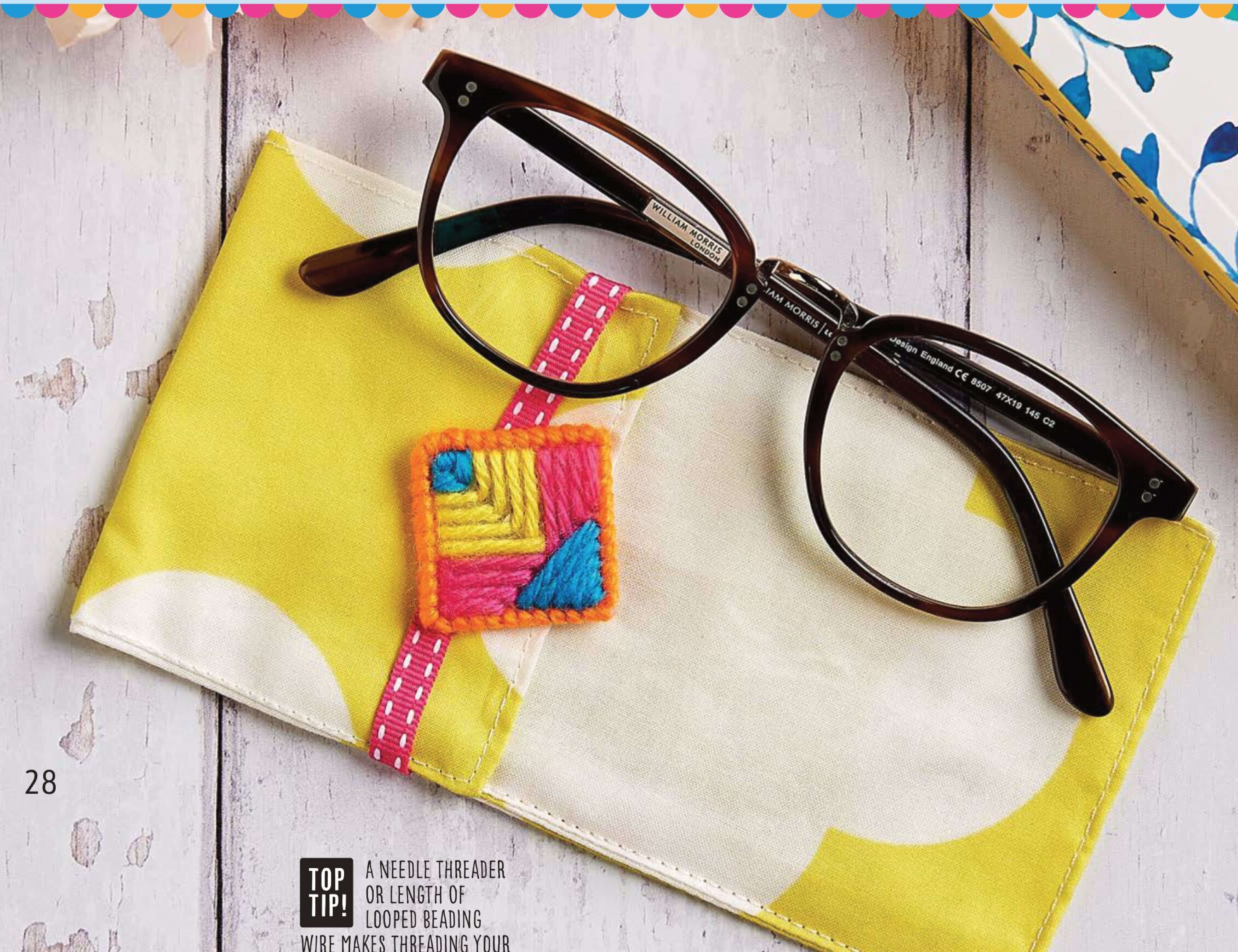


CHART
SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM



TOP TIP! A NEEDLE THREADER OR LENGTH OF LOOPED BEADING WIRE MAKES THREADING YOUR NEEDLE SO MUCH QUICKER

GLASSES CASE

1 To make the button, cut a square of plastic canvas 11 squares by 11 squares. Follow the chart to create the pattern, which is stitches in different directions to create a chevron. Over sew the edges of the square to complete.

2 For the case, cut a 20cm x 35cm strip of patterned fabric. Fold in half lengthways with the right side facing. Stitch around the edge, with a 1cm seam allowance, leaving a 3cm gap in the long edge of the stitching line. Trim the corners, then turn the piece to the right side through the gap.

3 Tease out the corners and press flat. Fold up 12cm and press flat to form a pocket. Cut a 12cm length of ribbon and position this between the two layers, 2cm down from the open edge of the pocket. Pin in place, then stitch the outer edge together sandwiching the ends of the ribbon into the stitching line.

4 Continue to edge stitch all the way around the base and flap. Stitch the button to the right side of the flap, positioned in a diamond shape with half of it extending over the edge of the flap. The flap can be closed over the case and the embroidered button put under the ribbon to secure the glasses case closed.

> "For these projects I used the ends of knitting yarn that had a similar weight to tapestry yarn, so it was a great stashbuster!"

AMANDA WALKER
DESIGNER

DESIGNER **SOPHIA PALMER**

Cross stitch hoop

This colourful wall art is a fantastic introduction for beginners, as all of the stitches on the guide are regular crosses

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, Aida, 14 count ★ Cross stitch thread, assortment of stranded cotton ★ Embroidery needle, size 5 ★ Embroidery hoop, 18cm

1 Download and print the chart found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut a square of Aida roughly 25.5cm larger than the hoop. Place it securely inside. Following the stitch guide and starting from the centre marked point, cross-stitch the design using three strands of cotton. Once the design has been completed, gently steam the finished piece. Trim the Aida to a circle roughly 5cm larger than the hoop. If the Aida frays, use an overlocker or a zig-zag stitch to secure the edges.

2 Use white cotton thread and a needle to sew a simple running stitch around the edge of the excess Aida on the back. Pull tightly to gather up the edges and neaten the excess to the inside of the hoop. Knot to secure.

TOP TIPS

★ Ensure your stitches are consistent, working in the same direction i.e. from right to left, or vice-versa ★ Grease shows up on pale fabric so clean hands ★ Don't worry about the reverse – you can always hide it if it looks messy! ★ Use a needle threader for ease and to prevent damaging the thread

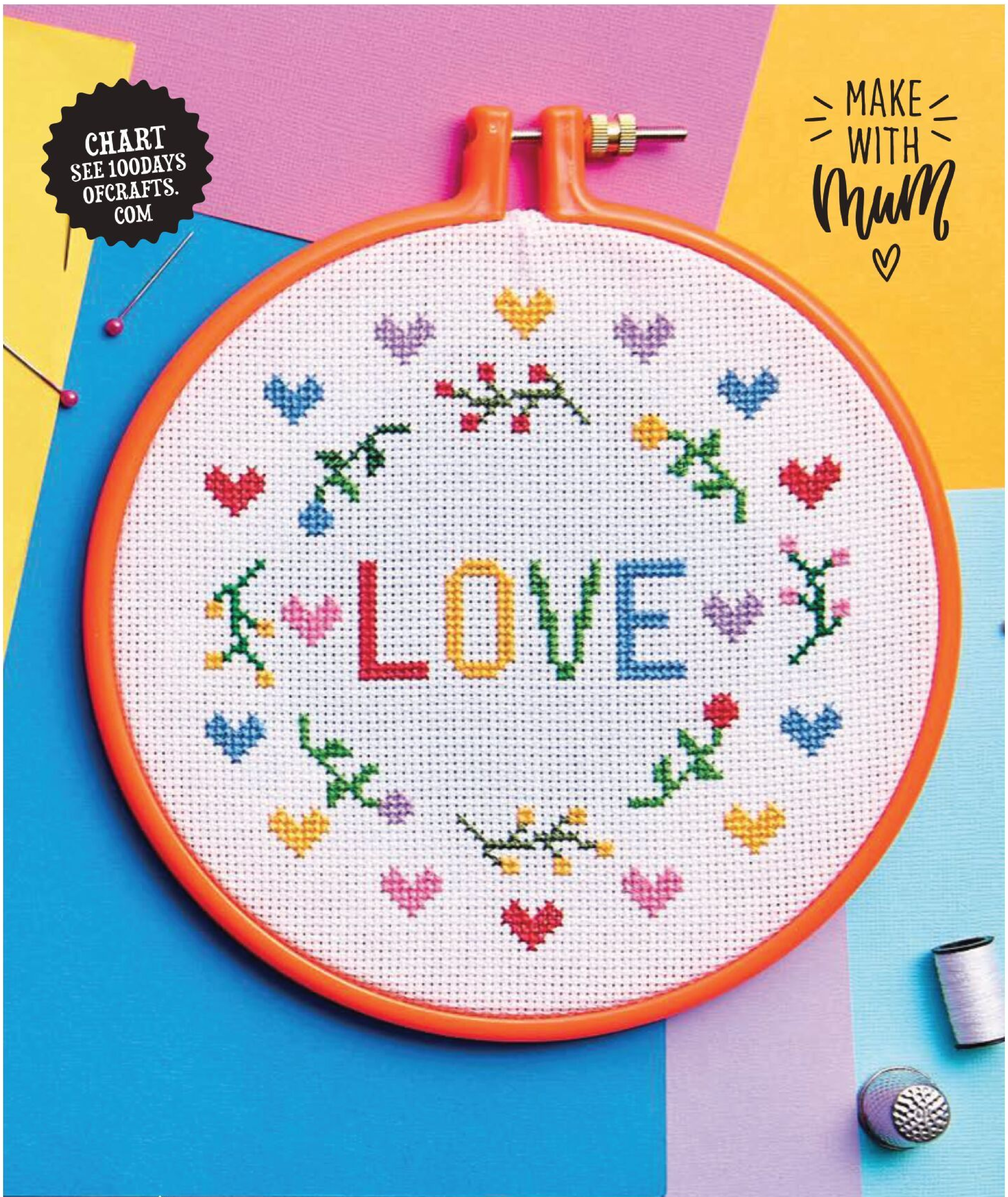


CHART SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS.COM

MAKE WITH mum

"Do you have a different count Aida? No problem at all, just experiment with however many strands of cotton look good"

SOPHIA PALMER DESIGNER

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

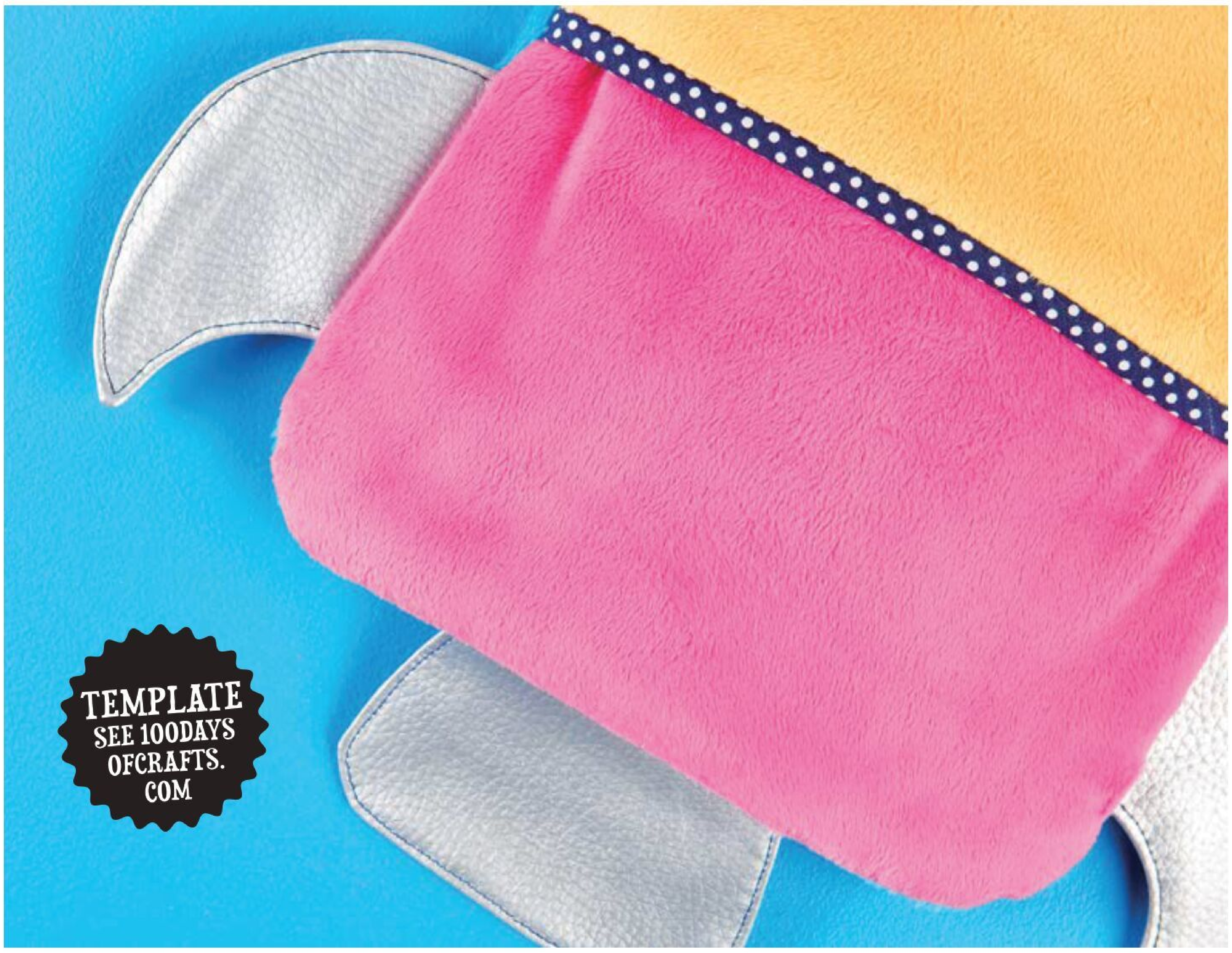
Rocket cosie

Little ones will be over the moon with this rocket-shaped hot water bottle cover

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: plush, blue, yellow, pink; leatherette, silver; glitter, navy; cotton, lining ★ Bias binding, navy white spot ★ Wadding ★ Hot water bottle ★ Acid-free glue

NB: Use 1cm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated


TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

1 Download and print the templates from 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut the four main pieces for the rocket front using the templates provided: A and C from blue plush fabric, B from pink plush and D from yellow plush. With right sides pinned together, sew A to B along the straight edge, B to C across the long straight edges then C to D across the remaining straight edges.

2 Lay this piece right side up on a piece of wadding cut slightly larger, then lay the wadding onto lining fabric which is also cut slightly larger, wrong side up. Pin them all together, then sew a 5mm seam all the way around the edge of the plush fabric top. Trim off all excess fabric up to the edge of the plush top.

3 Cut a 9cm diameter circle from silver leatherette fabric and a 7cm diameter circle from navy glitter fabric. Use white thread to sew the glitter circle in the middle of the silver circle. Repeat with a 5cm diameter circle from glitter fabric and a 7cm diameter circle from silver fabric. Use grey thread to sew them in place just in from the raw edge of the silver onto the plush front using the picture as a guide for placement. Use the same thread to stitch around the edge of the glitter fabric edge.

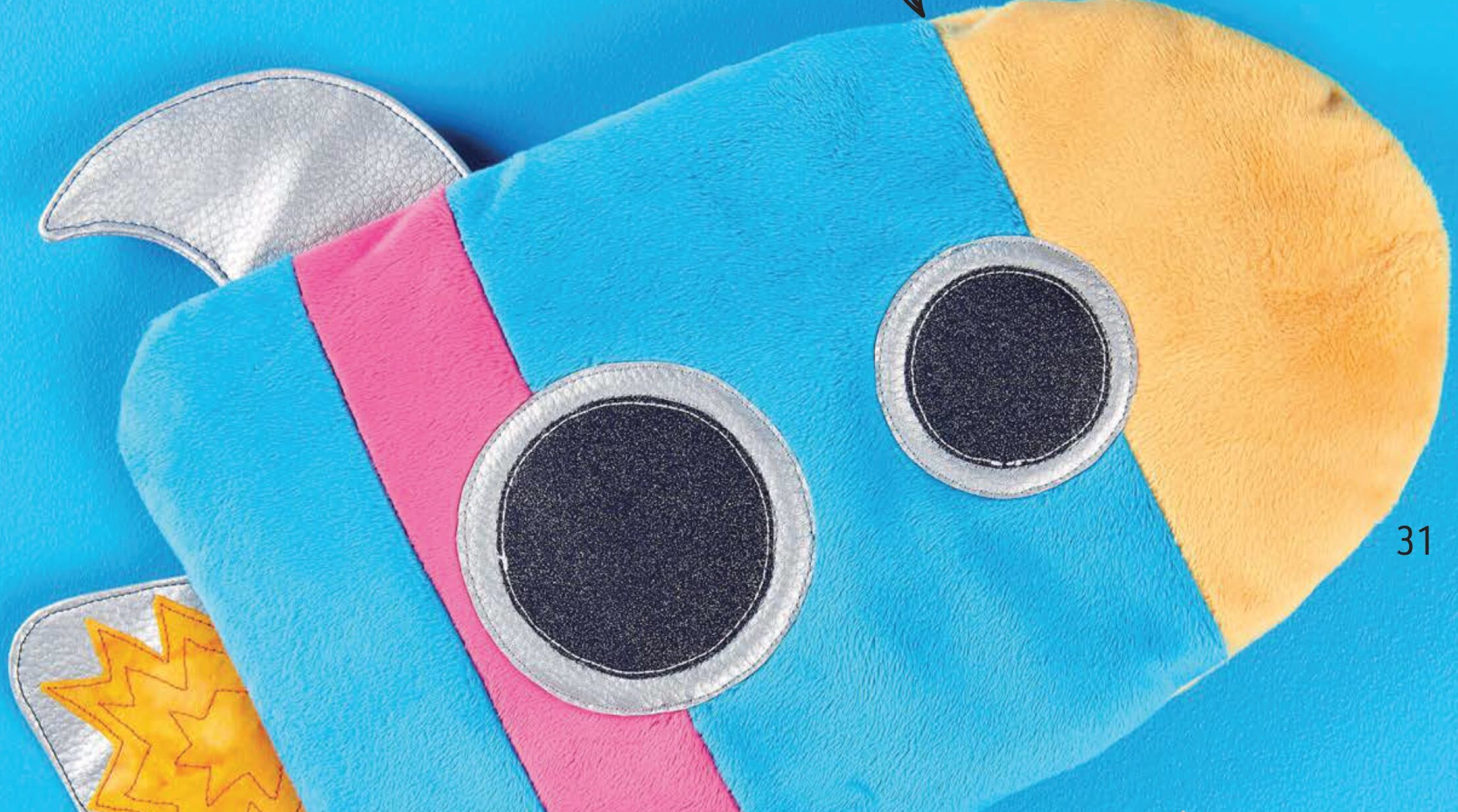
4 For the back, cut pink plush fabric measuring the width of the bottle by 22cm long. Shape the bottom by using the finished front as a guide. Cut yellow plush fabric to the shape of the rocket top and 24cm long, again using the finished front as a guide. Repeat Step 2, then once trimmed, add binding to the top straight edge of the pink and the bottom straight edge of the yellow.

5 Use template F to cut a pair of side fins from silver leatherette fabric, remembering to turn the template over for the second side. Lay each one right sides together with a piece of leatherette cut slightly larger. Leaving the straight side edge unstitched, sew a 5mm seam all the way around the curved edge, then trim close to the stitch line with pinking shears. Turn right side out and topstitch around the curve.

6 Use template E to cut out a piece from silver leatherette. Snip out template G, the flame, from orange fabric and use an acid-free glue stick to secure it in the middle of the leatherette so the top straight edge of both match. Allow to dry. Stitch around the edge of the flame with red thread. Place the embroidered leatherette right sides together with a larger piece of leatherette, and leaving the top straight edge unstitched, sew a 5mm seam all the way around the curved edge. Trim off excess fabric, turn right side out and topstitch around the curve.

7 To assemble the cover, lay the front right side up. Layer the top back section wrong side up on top, then lay the bottom back section wrong side up on top of that. Slip both side fins in place in the side seams across both ends of the pink stripe so the straight edge of them sits with the edge of the cover and the curves are inside. Make sure they are the right way up, the curved edge must point down. Place the bottom flame piece centrally in the bottom edge, flame side down so the straight edge meets the edge of the cover. Sew a 1cm seam all the way around. Turn right side out to finish.

PERSONALISE WITH EASE


I'd also make an out-of-this-world PJ case

TOP TIP! YOU CAN MINIMISE MESS BY USING A ROTARY CUTTER TO CUT OUT YOUR PLUSH PIECES

"Sew a loop of ribbon into the centre top of the rocket to hang it up and display when not in use"

CAROLYN LETTEN
DESIGNER

DESIGNERS **CHARLOTTE BALDWIN TURNER & AMANDA WALKER**

Laundry helpers

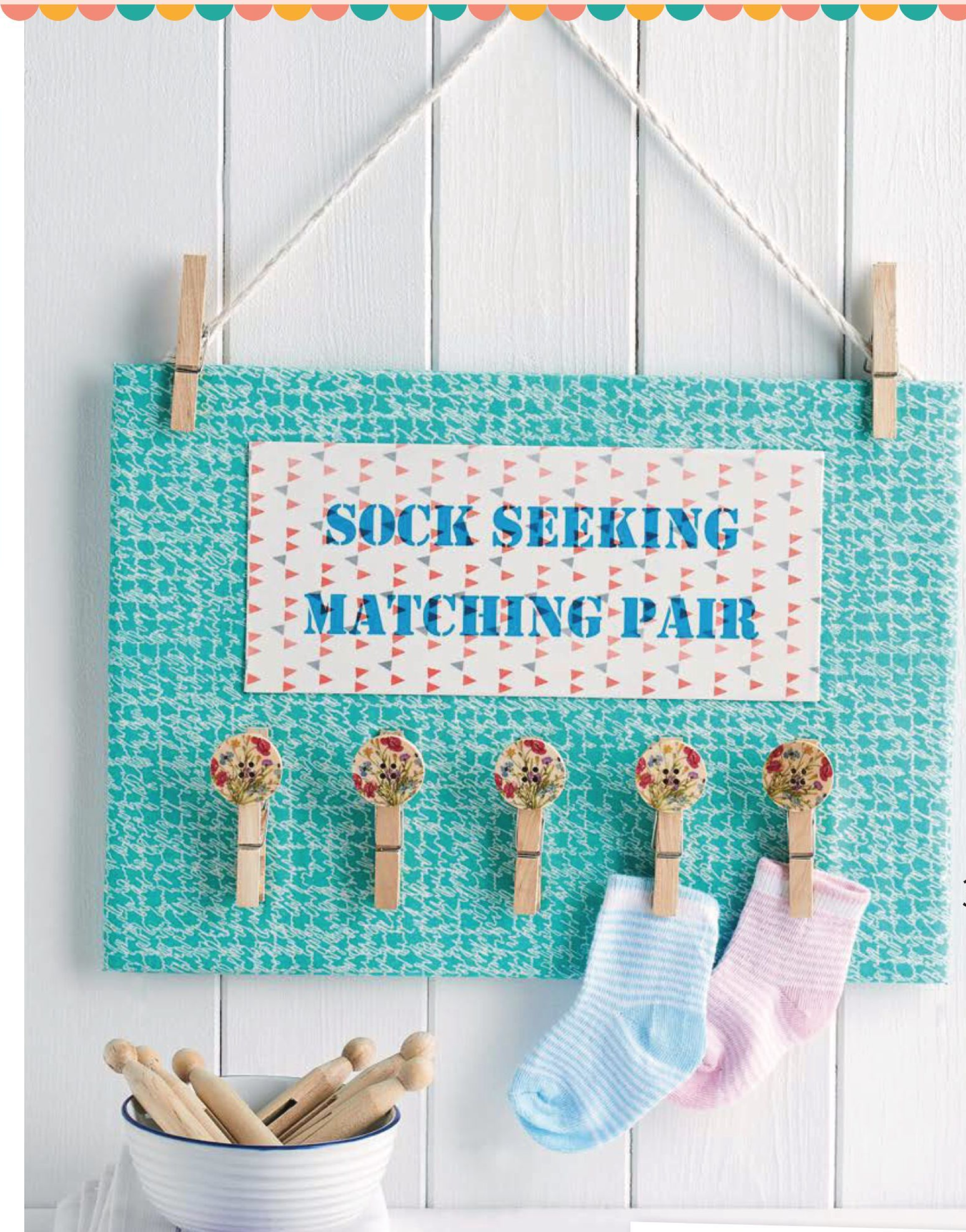
Show your utility room a little love with these simple makes

STASH BUSTER

KIT LIST

★ Assorted fabrics ★ Pillowcase ★ Hand towels ★ Table protector fabric ★ Curtain interlining ★ Cord: nylon, piping ★ Transfer paper ★ Hot glue gun ★ Wooden pegs ★ Buttons ★ Wooden table ★ Hardboard ★ Spray adhesive ★ Mid weight wadding

Tub size: 23cm x 28cm x 33cm



LAUNDRY BAG

1 Cut out letters from patterned fabric. Place newspaper inside the pillow case, then glue the letters onto the front. Measure the short side of the pillowcase and double the measurement, then cut fabric to this length.

2 To make the handle, cut fabric to 12cm x 50cm, fold in half, right sides together, then sew up the longest side. Turn to the right side, fold in half, then turn the raw edges in on themselves, so they are encased inside the fold and facing each other. Stitch to the side of the laundry bag.

SOCK BOARD

1 Print out *Sock Seeking Matching Pair* onto transfer paper, selecting 'mirror image' in the print settings. Trim and lay face-down onto patterned fabric, then follow the manufacturer's instructions to adhere. Back with card. Stick curtain interlining to the hardboard and snip off the excess. Spray patterned fabric and cut to 3cm larger on all sides than the board, on the wrong side with adhesive.

2 Place the board centrally on top, interlining side down. Fold the fabric edges to the back, and secure with a hot glue gun. Secure the worded rectangle to the board with a glue gun, then attach five pegs below, each with a button on top. Hang the board with a knot in either end of piping cord, then peg to the top corners and secure with a glue gun.

IRONING TABLE

1 Cut curtain interlining and table protector fabric to fit the table top. Stick to the table, protector fabric first, with spray adhesive. Trim the patterned fabric to the same size, but 4cm larger all around.

2 Neaten the edge by overlocking or with a zig-zag stitch, then fold in this neatened edge by 1cm, and stitch to make a channel. Leave a gap in one side. Attach a safety pin to the end of the nylon cord, then feed it through the fabric channel. Place the cover over the table, then tighten to gather. Tie the cord ends together.

FABRIC TUBS

1 Take a 17cm x 73cm piece of fabric for the outside of the basket and stitch together each end of the panel to make a tube.

2 Cut a piece of coloured lining fabric 17cm by 73cm and a piece of white lining fabric 23cm by 73cm. Sew right sides together along one long side with a 0.5cm seam allowance. Stitch the ends together into a bi-coloured tube and sew to the top of the outer fabric pipe. Turn the entire tube inside out.

3 Cut a piece of mid-weight wadding 34cm by 73cm and wrap around the outer fabric part, overlapping part of the coloured lining fabric. Tack into a tube before folding the bi-coloured pipe down over it. Tack the lower edge of the outer fabric, the lower edge of the wadding and the raw edge of the white fabric together.

4 Turn the tube outer fabric side out and topstitch around the join of the outer fabric and the coloured lining fabric to secure the wadding. Turn the tube inside out again. Cut a 25cm diameter circle of coloured lining fabric and sew to the other side of the tube, right sides together. This piece will be the base of the storage tub.

5 Cut a 24cm diameter circle of quilt wadding and a 27cm diameter circle of the white lining fabric. Pin the wadding to the centre of the lining, fold the edges of the fabric over the wadding circle and tack in place.

6 Place the tacked base circle wadding side down on the inside of the fabric basket base and slip-stitch in place, making sure that you cover the raw edges of the base of the tube with the folded edges of the base circle. Turn the fabric tub right side out and fold over the rim to show the coloured lining.

Size to suit

DISH CLOTHS

1 Cut the hand towel into six equal pieces, then trim the patterned fabric to the same measurements. Place one piece of towel and fabric right sides together, then pin and stitch, leaving a 5cm gap.

2 Snip the points off each corner to remove excess bulk, then turn to the right side. Stitch the gap closed, then press. Repeat for the other five dish cloths.

TOP TIP! USE COTTON FABRIC AND THREAD FOR THESE DISHCLOTHS, SO THAT THE LAUNDRY CARE IS THE SAME AS FOR THE TOWELLING PART OF THEM

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Coiled wreath

MAKE WITH mum

Curl up a whole wad of felt pinwheels then join them to make a vibrant decoration

KIT LIST

★ Felt, various colours ★ Sewing thread and needle ★ Bias binding, red ★ Scissors ★ Thin card ★ Glue

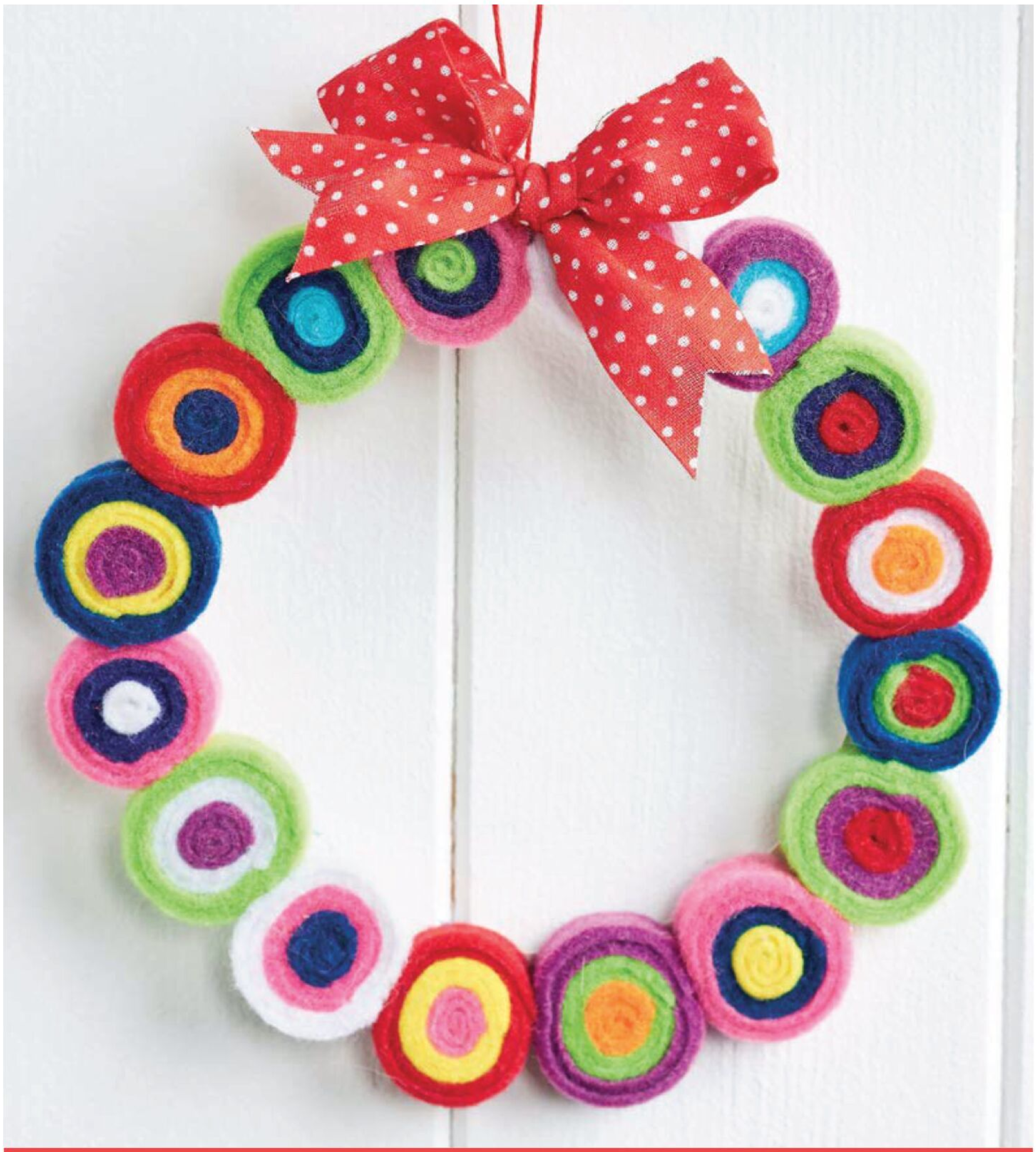
1 Cut several 1cm wide strips of coloured felt. Cut a strip down to 4cm long and roll into a tight coil. Secure the end with a few stitches. Take a second coloured felt strip and wrap twice around the coil, starting and stopping where the previous strip finished and trimming away the excess. Secure with stitches. Repeat for a third colour of felt to complete the pinwheel.

2 Repeat previous step to make 16 pinwheels, mixing colours equally. Take a doubled length of thread and sew through each pinwheel from side to side ensuring the spirals do not twist. Tie the ends of the thread together fairly tightly to make a ring.

3 Press 5mm seams down either side of a 30cm strip of red bias binding. Tie into a bow and snip a triangular shape out of each end.

4 Cut a narrow ring of thin card and glue to the back of the wreath to keep it in a complete circle. Tie a loop of thread to the cardboard to hang the wreath and stitch the bow to the top.

TOP TIP! THE COILS NEED ONLY A FEW STITCHES TO HOLD THEM IN PLACE. IF YOU PULL THE THREAD TOO TIGHTLY YOU RISK DISTORTING THE CIRCULAR SHAPE



MAKE FELT SPIRALS

1 Roll a 1cm x 4cm strip of felt into a tight coil and secure with a few small stitches

2 Wrap a second 1cm wide strip of felt in another colour around the coil twice. Trim end and stitch down.

3 Repeat with a third strip of felt to create a tight spiral. Take care the shape does not distort

PRACTICAL AND PRETTY

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

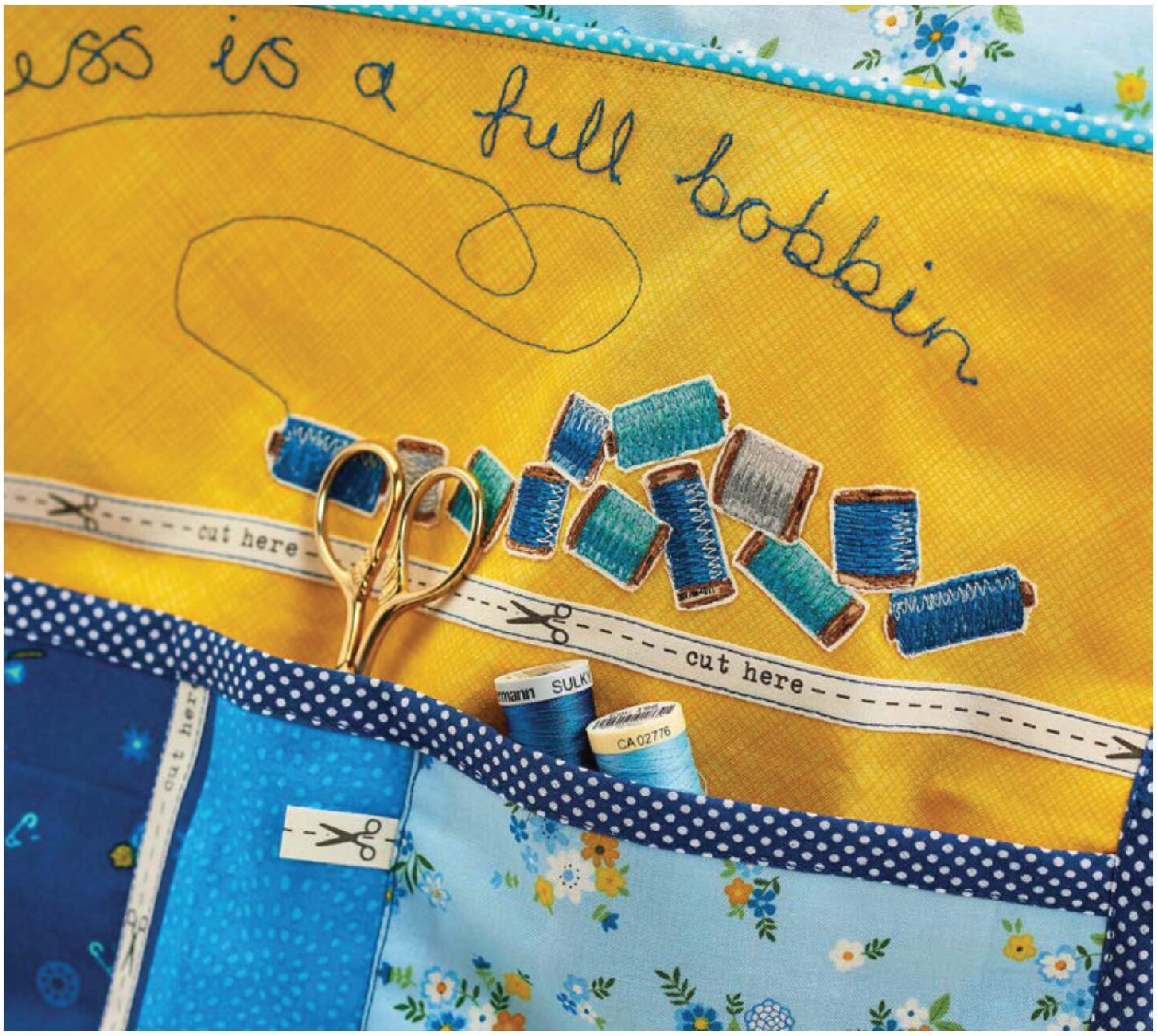
Machine cover

Not only will this sleeve protect your machine from scratches, it'll cheer up your deskspace too!

KIT LIST

★ Fat quarters: royal blue floral; pale blue floral; yellow; blue swirl; spool print ★ Backing fabric, calico ★ Ribbon, royal blue ★ Bias binding: navy spot; turquoise spot, 2.5cm x 3.5m each ★ Piping cord ★ Printed cotton tape ★ Iron-on interfacing

NB: use 1cm seam allowance unless otherwise stated



1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. For the front pockets, cut royal blue floral fabric, 14cm x 22cm, blue swirl print, 7cm x 14cm, and pale blue floral, 14cm x 17cm.

2 Pin the royal blue and swirl pieces right sides together, and sew a seam. Pin the swirl and pale blue pieces right sides together, trapping a loop of cotton tape in the seam. Sew the seam, topstitch, then press open on the wrong side.

3 Attach printed cotton vertically onto the royal blue fabric, and press. Pin and stitch the wrong side of the front pocket to calico of the same size, using a 5mm seam allowance. Sew spotty bias binding across top raw edge.

4 Cut yellow fabric, 29cm x 42cm, and printed cotton tape, 43cm long. Pin the tape across the yellow material so that it's 17cm above the bottom edge of the fabric. Sew across both tape edges using royal blue thread, and press on the wrong side.

5 Interface a section of the spool print, then cut out 12 spools. Place them on the yellow material and stitch around each one in matching thread. Sew three lines of zig-zag stitch in three coordinating shades onto the spools, then press the wrong side.

6 Trace the template words onto white tissue paper, pin in place, and use royal blue thread to sew over it twice. Tear the paper away and press the wrong side. Snip pale blue fabric, 10.5cm x 42cm. Cover 44cm of piping cord with turquoise spot bias binding, and pin it between the top edge of the yellow and light blue fabric.

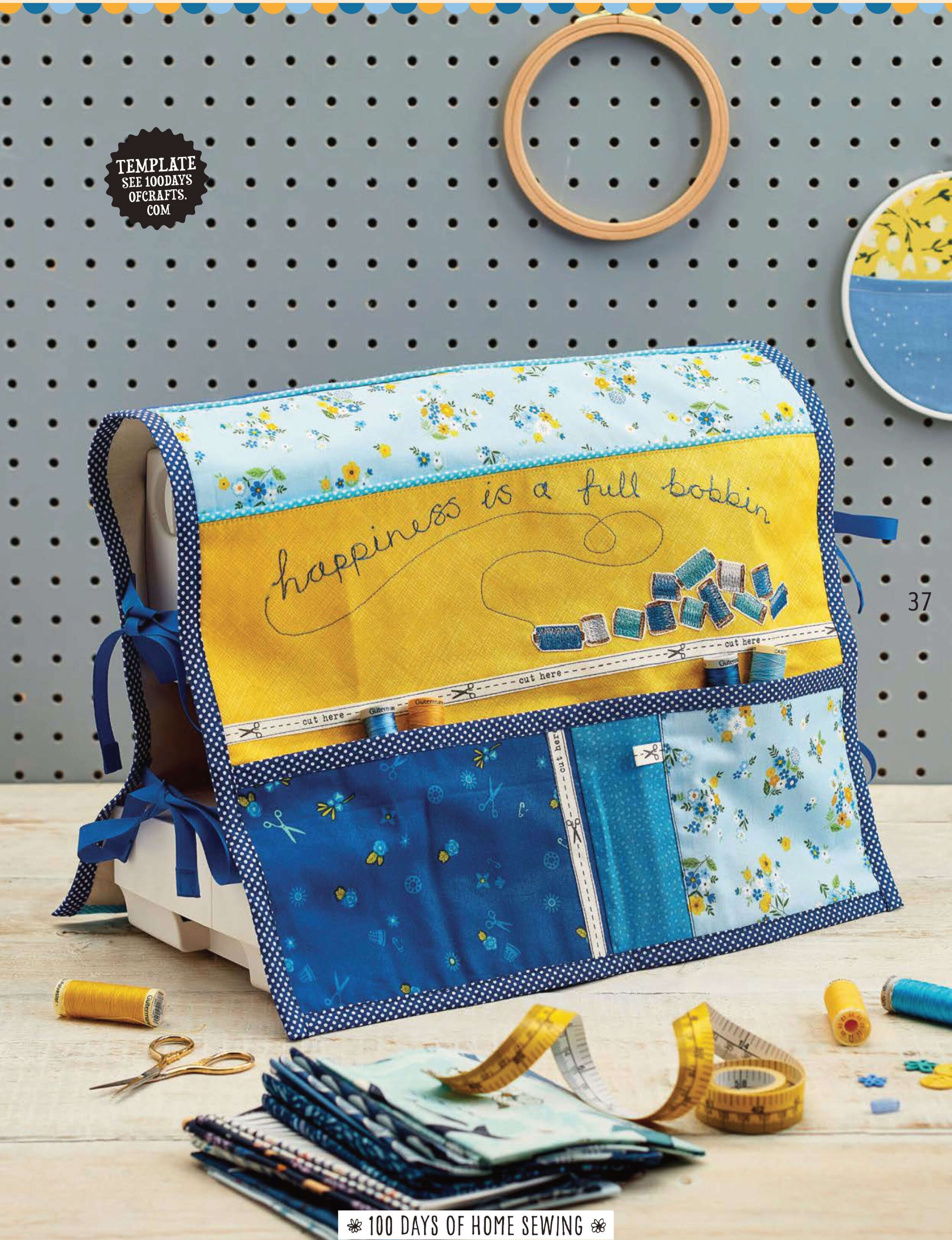
7 Sew across the binding and topstitch the yellow fabric in coordinating thread. Cut royal blue fabric, 36cm x 42cm. Cover 44cm of piping cord with the turquoise bias binding, and pin it between the royal and light blue fabrics. Sew across the binding and topstitch the royal blue fabric in coordinating thread.

8 Pin the pocket across the bottom of the cover, then sew a 5mm seam down both sides and along the bottom. Add vertical lines to divide the pockets as you wish. Trim any excess fabric and cord.

9 Lay the cover over the machine and cut the length as necessary. Mark where each piece of ribbon will hang, ensuring that each pair lines up for tying. Back the cover with a length cut to the same size, then sew a 5mm seam all the way around. Cover the top and bottom raw edges with bias binding.

10 Cut eight 20cm lengths of ribbon and fold over one raw end of each piece twice, then sew. Pin navy bias binding down the sides of the cover, then attach it in place, trapping one raw end of each ribbon underneath it.

TOP TIP! USE AN ACID-FREE GLUE STICK TO SECURE THE PRINTED COTTON TAPE BEFORE STITCHING IT ON


happiness is a full bobbin
cut here
Gütermann

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Crafty makes

If you're a yarn lover, these handy holders will help take your knitting and crochet designs to the next level

KIT LIST

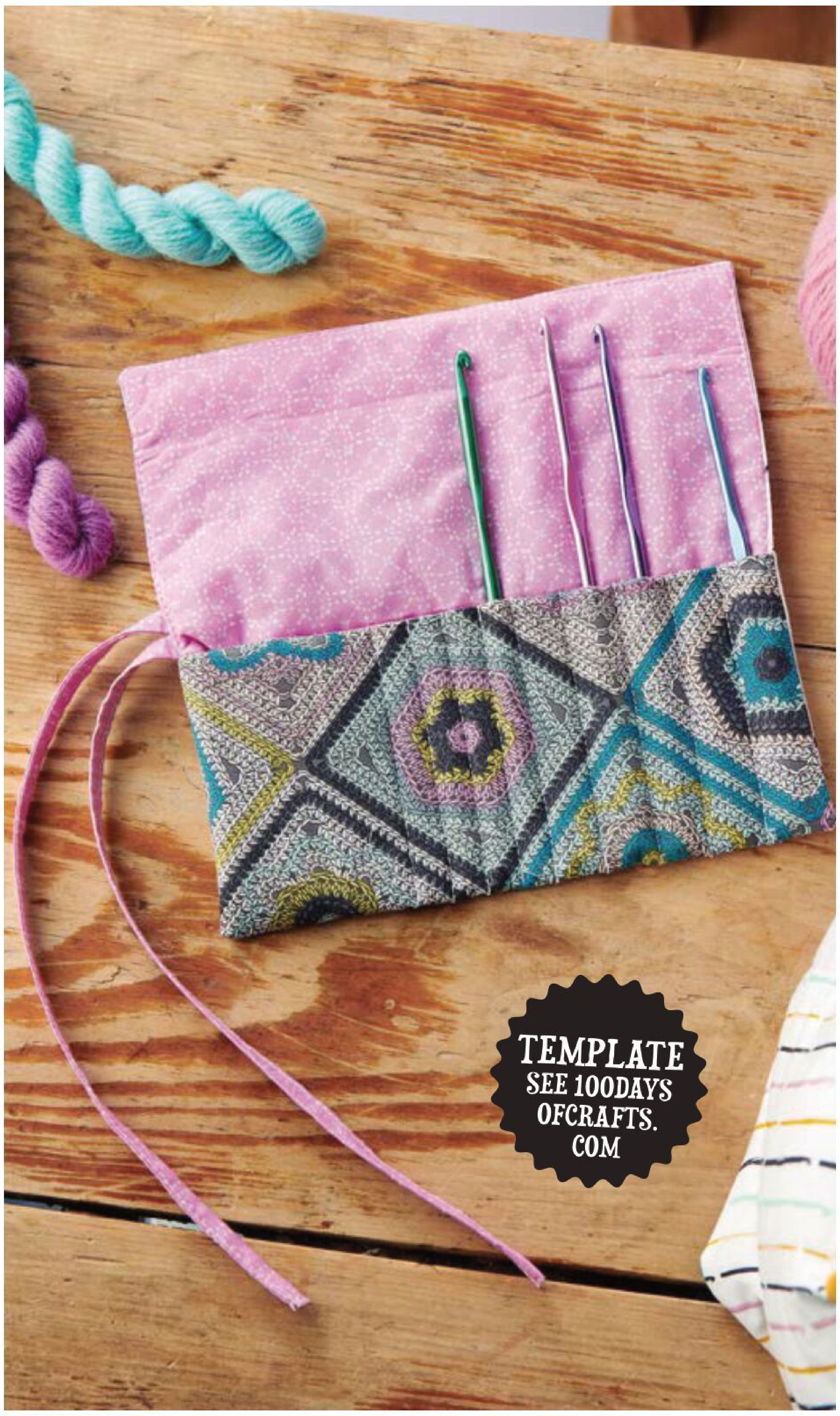
★ Fabric: printed cotton, 50cm, coordinating plain cotton ★ Medium weight quilt wadding, Vlieseline 277 100% cotton ★ Thick card

NB: use 5mm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

CROCHET HOOK CASE

1 Cut two fabric strips 3cm x 30cm. Fold the long edges to the middle before folding in half to fully enclose the raw edges and pin. Open out one end, tuck in the short raw end and refold. Topstitch close to the folded edges to secure.

2 Cut a piece of lining fabric 21cm x 29cm long. Layer this onto quilt wadding, right side up, and secure by zig-zag stitching around all edges. Cut a 10cm x 21cm from one patterned cotton and a 20cm x 21cm from another. Join these right sides together to make a rectangle the same size as the lining. Place the pieces right sides together and stitch along the top and bottom edges only.


TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS.COM

3 Place your hand inside the case and fold on the seam joining the two different outer fabrics. Sew from this seam to the junction with the lining fabric only. Refold the top of the case on the join between the larger piece of outer fabric and the lining. Place the two straps inside the case so the raw ends sit between the layers on one side of the case, just above the partial side seam. Stitch from the top of the case down to this seam junction on both sides.

4 Take the remaining open lining sections of the case and fold from the junction of the previous seams. Stitch one side closed and leave a 5cm gap in the centre of the other. Turn the case out through this gap, fold in the raw edges and slip stitch closed. Push the lining inside the outer to form a pocket.

5 Press and top stitch around the flap of the case. Create channels for hooks, scissors and tape measure by top stitching from the top edge of the pocket down to the bottom fold. Vary the width of the channels to accommodate larger tools and use a quilting guide attachment to ensure lines are parallel. Fill with equipment, fold the top of the case over the ends of the hooks, roll up and secure with the straps.

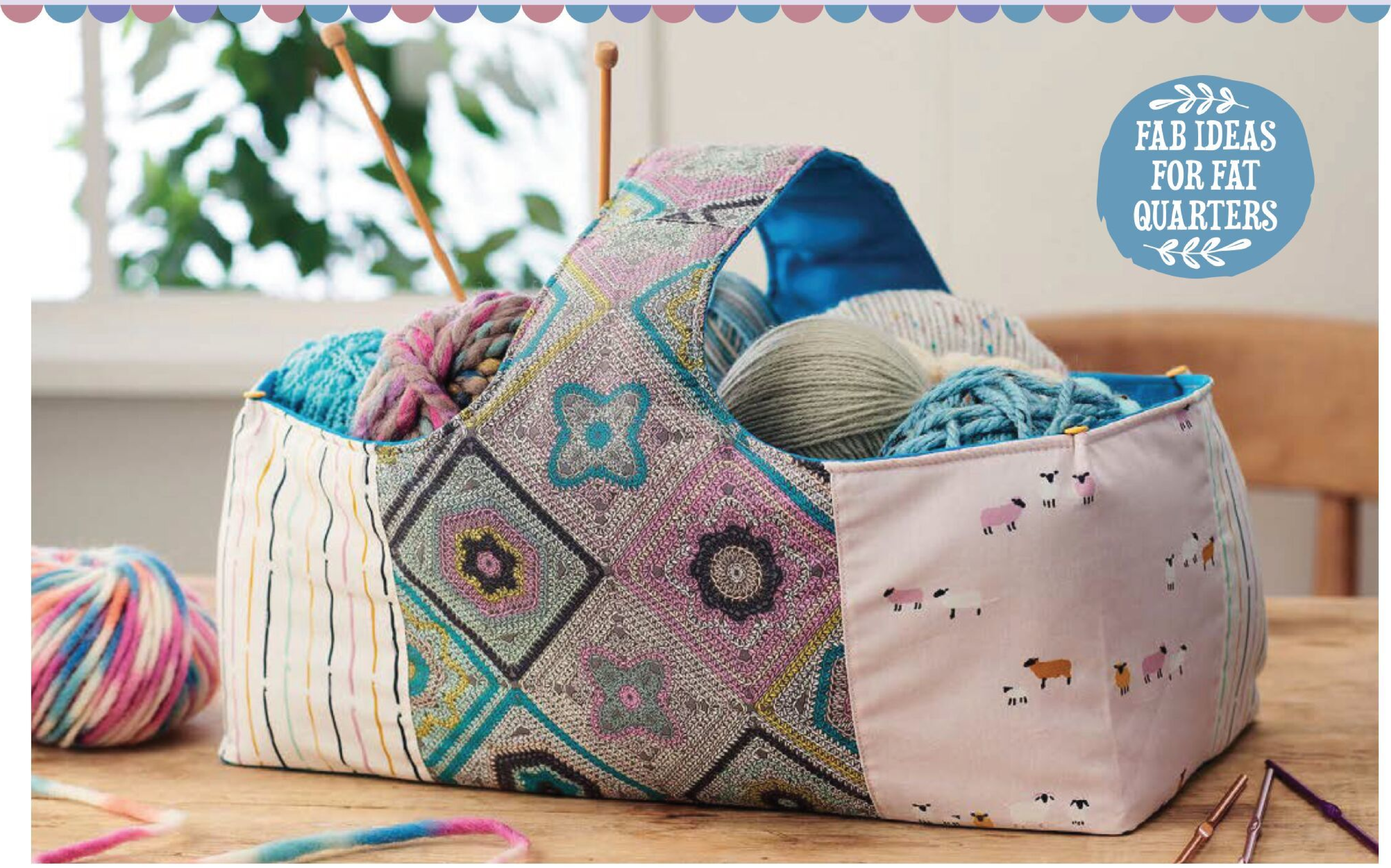
PROJECT BAG

1 Download the templates at 100daysofcrafts.com, print and cut out. Using the templates, cut basket panels from an assortment of printed cottons. Join the tops of both handles using the extension pieces and top stitch the seams to strengthen them. Add the front side pieces to each side of the handle panels to create a 'H' shape. Press and pin onto quilt wadding. Cut the wadding to the same size and zig-zag stitch around the edge to secure it in place.

2 Lay the wadded piece onto plain lining fabric, right sides together. Cut the lining to match the 'H' shape. Sew together along the curved handles and tops of the sides only. Turn right side out, passing one side through the handle channel. Separate the layers and match up the ends of the basket right sides together. Sew down the outer edge and lining. Fold the lining inside to make a bottomless basket. Top stitch around the top edge of the basket and turn inside out with the handle sitting inside the layers.

3 Cut a bottom piece from patterned fabric and secure onto wadding as before. Match up the centre long edges of the base to the centre of the front and back panels, then stitch both long edges, right sides together, leaving 1cm unsewn at each end. Match up the short ends of the bottom panel to the remaining areas of the basket sides and sew right sides together to complete the rectangular bottom.

4 Cut and stitch a lining rectangle to the basket in



the same way, leaving one short end unsewn for turning. Turn the basket right sides out through this gap so that the lining is on the outside. Cut a piece of stiff card to fit the base of the basket, 19cm x 39cm. Slip this into the turning gap. Fold in the raw edges of the gap and slip stitch closed before turning the basket right side out, passing the handle carefully over the end of the card stiffener. Square up the sides of the basket and press to create corners. Oversew a coordinating button to the top of each corner to give the basket a definite shape.

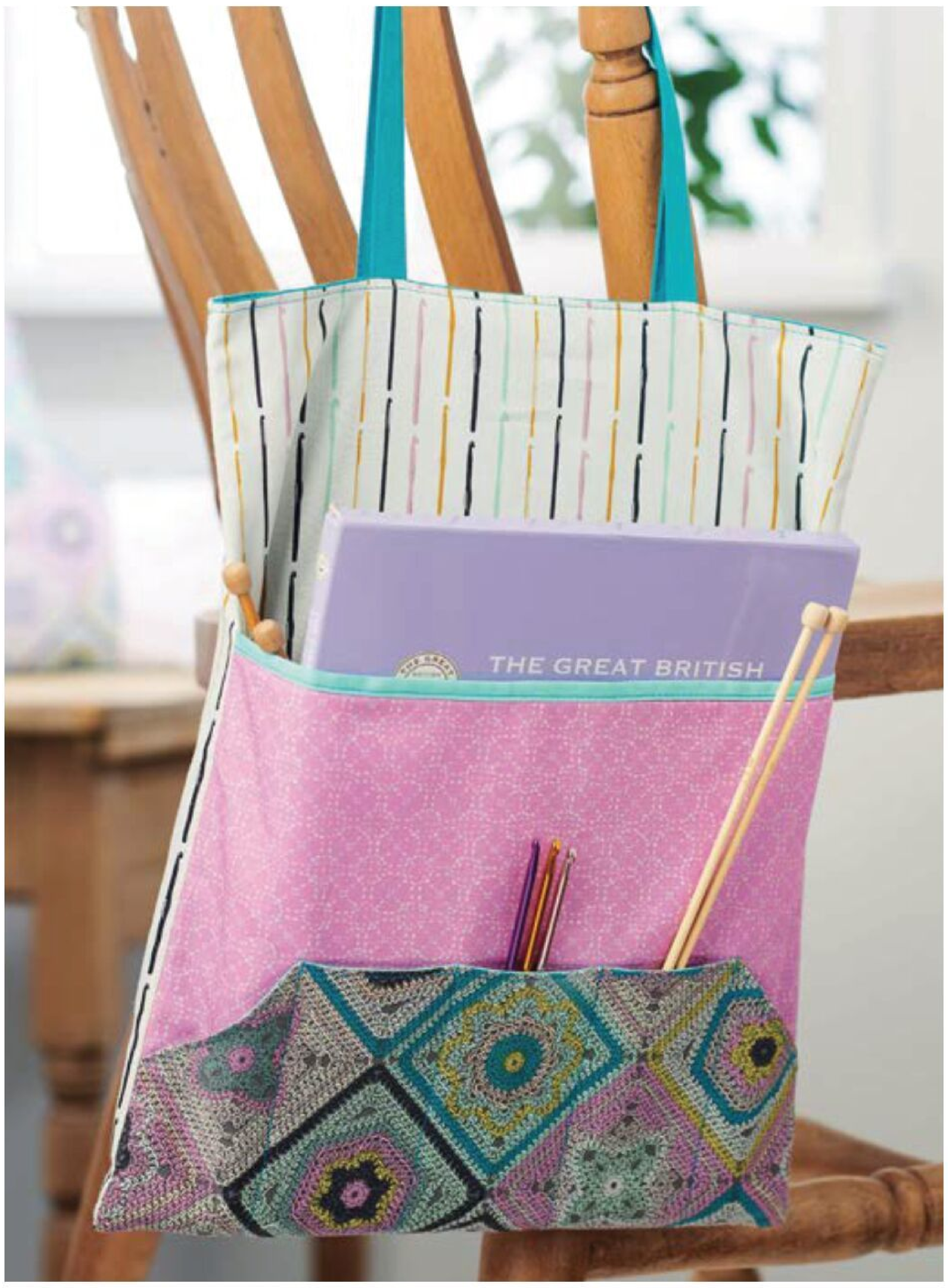
CRAFTING TOTE

1 Cut two rectangles measuring 29cm x 35cm from both outer and lining fabric. Cut two strips of fabric 4cm x 50cm. Fold the long sides to the middle before folding in half lengthways and top stitching close to the folded edges to make straps. Pin straps to the tops of both outer fabrics, matching raw edges, before placing the lining right sides together and stitching across the top of both pieces and opening out.

2 Cut a piece of outer fabric 23cm x 29cm, a matching rectangle of quilt wadding, and a piece of lining 24cm x 29cm. Place the two fabrics right sides together on top of the wadding, matching up the top edges. Sew along the top and fold out so that the wadding is sandwiched between the two fabrics. Adjust the seam at the top to show a narrow border of lining and top stitch to secure. Trim the bottom edge if necessary.

3 Cut a 13cm x 29cm of outer and lining fabric and place right sides together. Cut small triangles from the top of both sides before sewing right along the top edge. Turn right sides out and top stitch. Trim bottom edge if necessary before layering onto the lower part of the wadded panel. Top stitch a series of vertical lines from the top of the smaller panel through both layers to create tool compartments.

4 Place the panels onto one of the tote outer pieces and tack in place along the sides and bottom edge. Match up the two outer and lining pieces right sides together, then sew down both long sides and across the bottom of the outer, securing the pocket panels in the process. Turn the tote right sides out. Fold in the raw edges of the bottom of the lining and top stitch closed before pushing the lining into the tote. Top stitch around the top of the bag, taking care not to catch the straps in the stitching.



DESIGNER **CHLOE HAILWOOD**

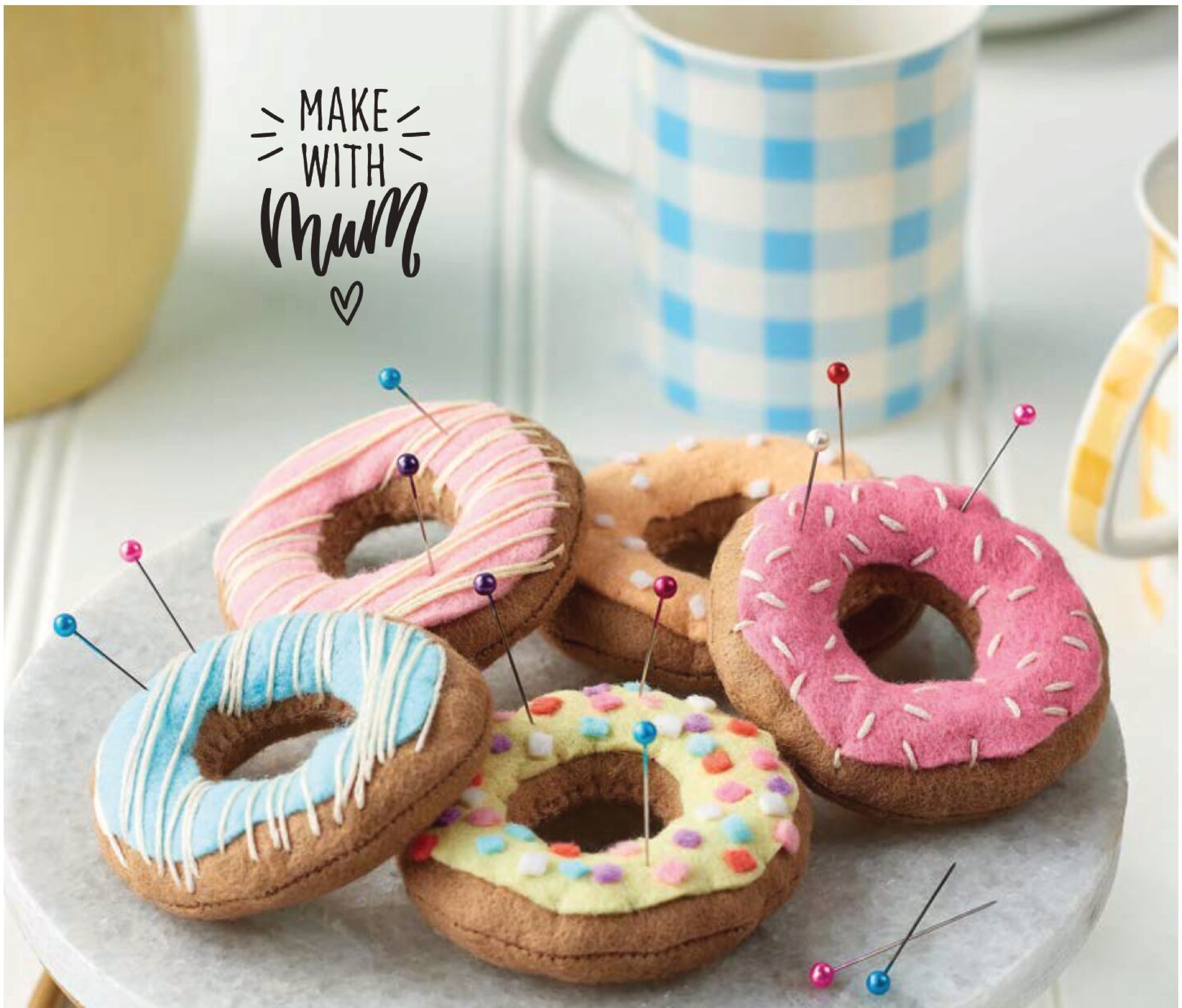
Cake pincushion

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

These adorable treats make cute pincushions when filled with toy stuffing, or pattern weights if you use plastic pellets

KIT LIST

★ Felt, various colours ★ Fibre filling ★ Glue



1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut 12 doughnuts from brown felt. Sew two pieces together around the outermost edge using a 5mm seam allowance. Turn through to the other side and blanket stitch the inner holes together, leaving a 2.5cm turning gap.

2 Gently push stuffing through the hole until filled evenly. Blanket stitch the gap closed. Repeat with the remaining pieces to create six doughnuts. Cut six rough icing shapes from different coloured felts, changing the shape slightly for each piece.

3 To stitch small sprinkles, use contrasting thread to hand embroider 5mm lines at different angles onto a piece of icing, then press gently. Secure to a doughnut using glue, then leave to dry. Sew a few sprinkles over the edges of the icing to hold in place.

4 To create the square shaped sprinkles, make a fringe by snipping thin strips into felt, leaving the top intact. Cut horizontally twice at equal widths. Glue the squares onto a piece of icing, then make some small stitches to secure. Attach to the doughnut and sew more coloured squares overlapping the edge of the felt.

5 For a dripped icing effect, glue a felt icing piece to the top of a doughnut. Make large stitches over the top of the felt to create long lines. Hide the start and finishing stitches under the icing.

TOP TIP! TO PREVENT TANGLING, USE SHORT LENGTHS OF EMBROIDERY WHEN CREATING THE DRIPPED ICING EFFECT ON THE DOUGHNUT

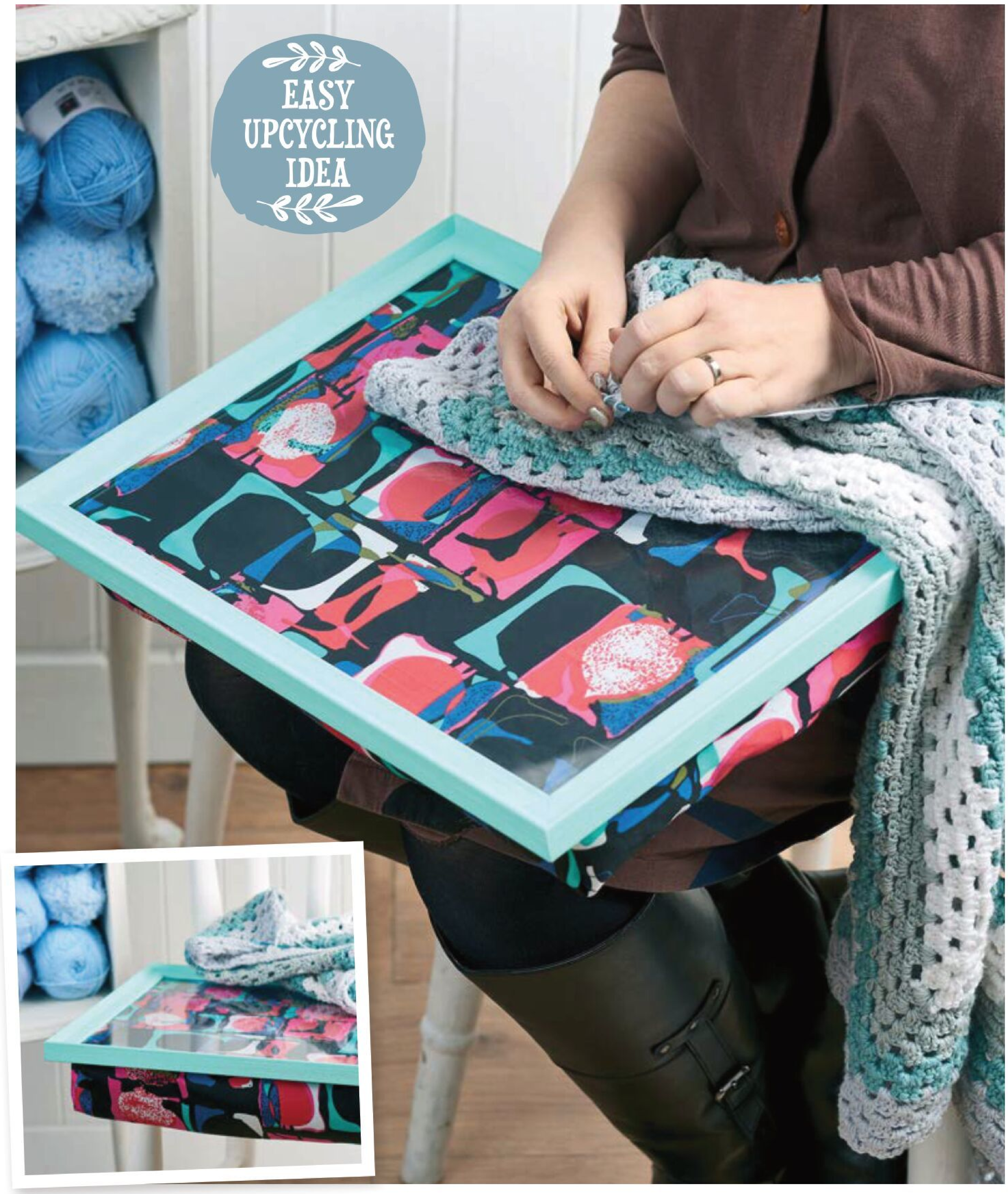
DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Lap tray

A sturdy and stylish surface, this portable workstation gives you the freedom to work from your lap, wherever you are

KIT LIST

★ Picture frame, with Perspex rather than glass ★ Fabric ★ Bean bag filler ★ Paint: Valspar, Pantone Beach Glass ★ Paintbrush ★ 3M Spray Mount ★ Double-sided tape ★ Sewing machine and thread ★ Ruler, pencil and scissors ★ Set square ★ Flat screwdriver



1 First, dismantle the picture frame and set the back board and Perspex to one side. With a small paintbrush, paint the frame on the front and back and leave to dry. If the frame was originally dark in colour apply another coat.

2 Draw around the back board onto the wrong side of the fabric, cut out the rectangle and set aside.

3 To make the cushion, measure the dimensions of the back board and add 16cm (so if the board is 30cm x 45cm, the measurement will become 46cm x 61cm.) Cut fabric to size.

4 From each corner measure and mark a point at 8cm along each edge. Pull these two marked positions together and pin. Flatten out the fabric; a fold will be formed diagonally across the rectangle.

5 Use a set square to draw a line at 90° from the marked point down to the fold like you are making a dart; this line should measure 8cm. Pin in place then machine stitch along the line. Cut away the excess fabric (the triangular shaped piece), leaving a 1cm seam allowance. Repeat this process on the three remaining corners and then turn the shallow box shape that has been formed to the right side.

6 Stick strips of double sided tape around the four edges of the back board and remove the paper backing from three of them. Place the board into the fabric box pulling and sticking three of the edges to the board. Pour the bean bag filler into the open end until you are happy with the amount, then remove the tape and stick the final edge.

7 Using the spray adhesive in a well ventilated area, spray the back of the remaining fabric rectangle cut out earlier and stick to the top of the backing board, covering the stuck edges of the cushion base.

8 Place the Perspex on top of the backing board and then the frame. Use a flat screwdriver to bend the retaining bars back in place connecting the frame to the cushion base.

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

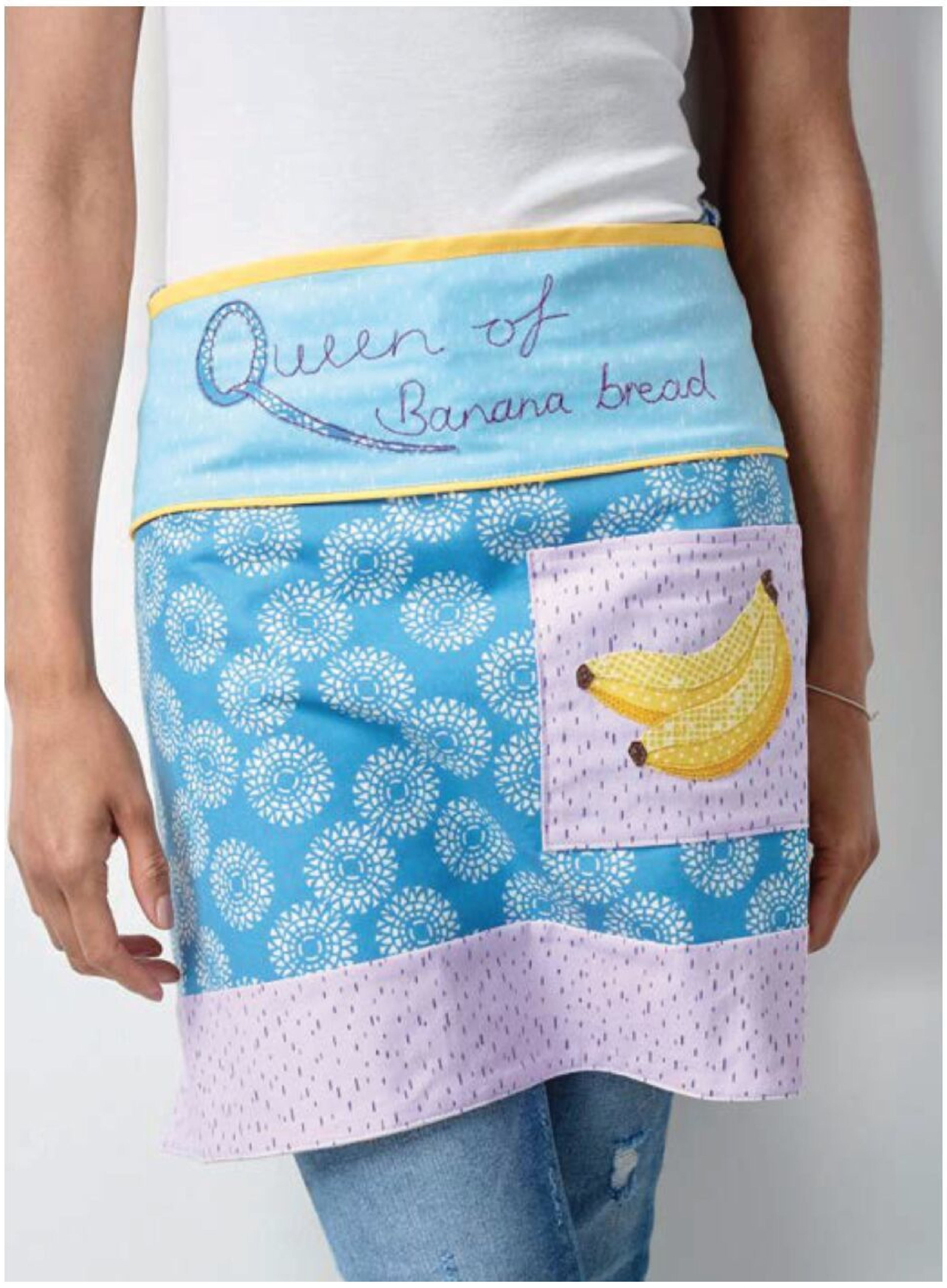
DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Baking set

Celebrate the baking queen or king you are with these cute kitchen textiles

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, skinny quarters (25cm x 112cm): pale blue, lilac, blue floral; assorted yellow prints, brown scraps; calico for backing ★ Bias binding: yellow, 2.5cm x 4m; navy spot, 2.5cm x 1.5m ★ Thin piping cord, 70cm ★ Iron-on interfacing ★ Wadding



APRON

1 Download the template at 100daysofcrafts.com, then print out. Cover a 70cm length of piping cord with yellow bias binding tape. Cut blue floral fabric, 25cm x 69cm, and pale blue, 12cm x 69cm. Pin both pieces lengthways, right sides together with the piping in-between, so that all of the raw edges align. Sew a 1cm seam across.

2 Press the seam on the reverse, then use a pale blue thread to topstitch the pale blue fabric across the join. Cut lilac fabric, 10cm x 69cm, then pin it right sides together with the bottom edge of the blue floral and sew a 1cm seam. Press on the reverse. For the pocket, trim lilac fabric, 18cm x 19.5cm. Fold the bottom 1cm over onto the wrong side and press with the iron to crease. Repeat for the other two sides. Fold the top edge over twice onto the wrong side, then sew a 1cm seam and press.

3 Use the template provided to cut out one whole piece, which covers both bananas in the yellow spot material, and back with interfacing. Snip the smaller sections from dark and pale yellow fabrics. Take the lilac pocket and stitch the bananas in place in the middle, as pictured. Use lighter yellow thread to add detail across the tops, and mid to darker yellow for the bottoms. Sew small scraps of brown to the tops and tails, then iron on the reverse.

4 Pin the pocket to the left side of the apron; 13cm in from the edge and 3.5cm down from the edge of the yellow piping cord. Use lilac thread down the pocket sides and across the bottom to attach it to the apron. Cut the calico backing to the same size as the apron and sew it right sides together with the apron front with a 1cm seam. Trim excess fabric from across the corners, turn right side out and press the edges. Topstitch down both sides and across the bottom.

5 Sew the yellow bias binding across the top; there should be approximately 115cm of tie at both sides of your apron and be sure to check both ends match. Use the template to trace the wording onto white tissue paper and cut out the Q from fabric. Pin the paper and Q in place, then sew over the words before tearing the paper away. Sew around the three edges of the pocket and press to finish.

POT HOLDER

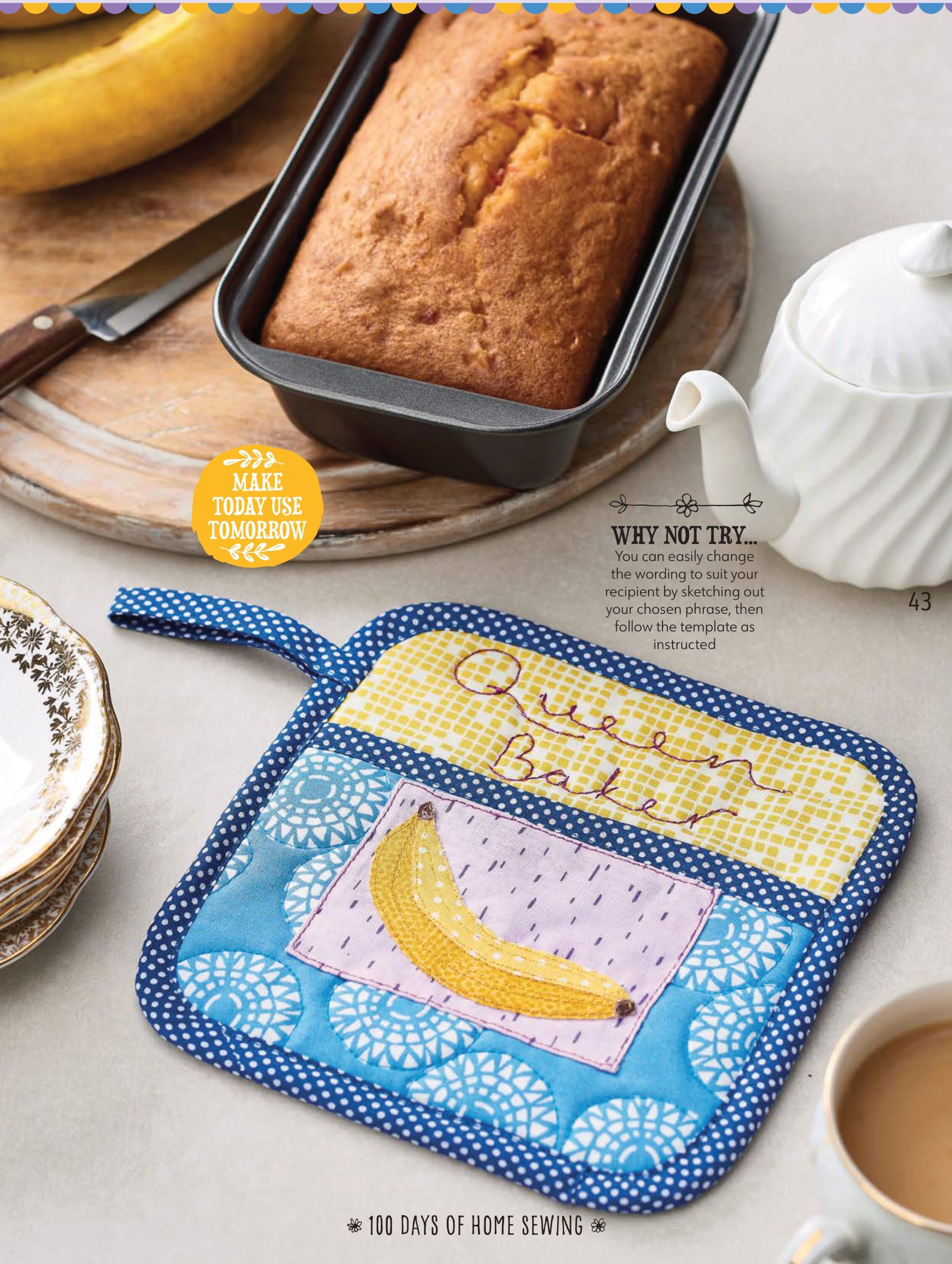
1 Cut blue floral, yellow print fabric and wadding, 18cm x 31cm each. Trim lilac material, 8.5cm x 11cm. Use the template to assemble the banana in the middle and stitch the detail. Press on the reverse, then iron a 5mm seam onto all four edges of it.

2 With blue floral fabric vertical, pin the lilac in place in the middle, 1cm from the top edge. Sew around all four sides in purple thread to secure, then press. Lay the blue floral and yellow fabrics wrong sides together, with the wadding in between, and pin. Sew a 5mm seam all the way around. Place it vertically and sew a line across the width, 12.5cm up from the bottom edge. Quilt around the blue floral print.

3 To create a loop from navy spot bias binding, cut a 20cm piece and fold it in half lengthways, sewing along the folded edges before ironing. With the yellow side of the holder facing up, vertically fold the bottom 12.5cm up and sew the sides with a 5mm seam. Cut away any excess wadding.

4 Starting at the bottom, sew the navy spot bias all the way around. As you get to the top left edge, slip the raw ends of your loop underneath the bias. Using the tissue method with the template provided, sew *Queen Baker* in purple thread onto the yellow section at the top as shown.

TOP TIP! INTERFACING WILL MAKE YOUR PROJECT LOOK BRIGHT AS IT STOPS THE COLOUR UNDERNEATH FROM SHOWING THROUGH



MAKE TODAY USE TOMORROW

WHY NOT TRY...

You can easily change the wording to suit your recipient by sketching out your chosen phrase, then follow the template as instructed

DESIGNER **SOPHIA PALMER**

Sewer's hoop

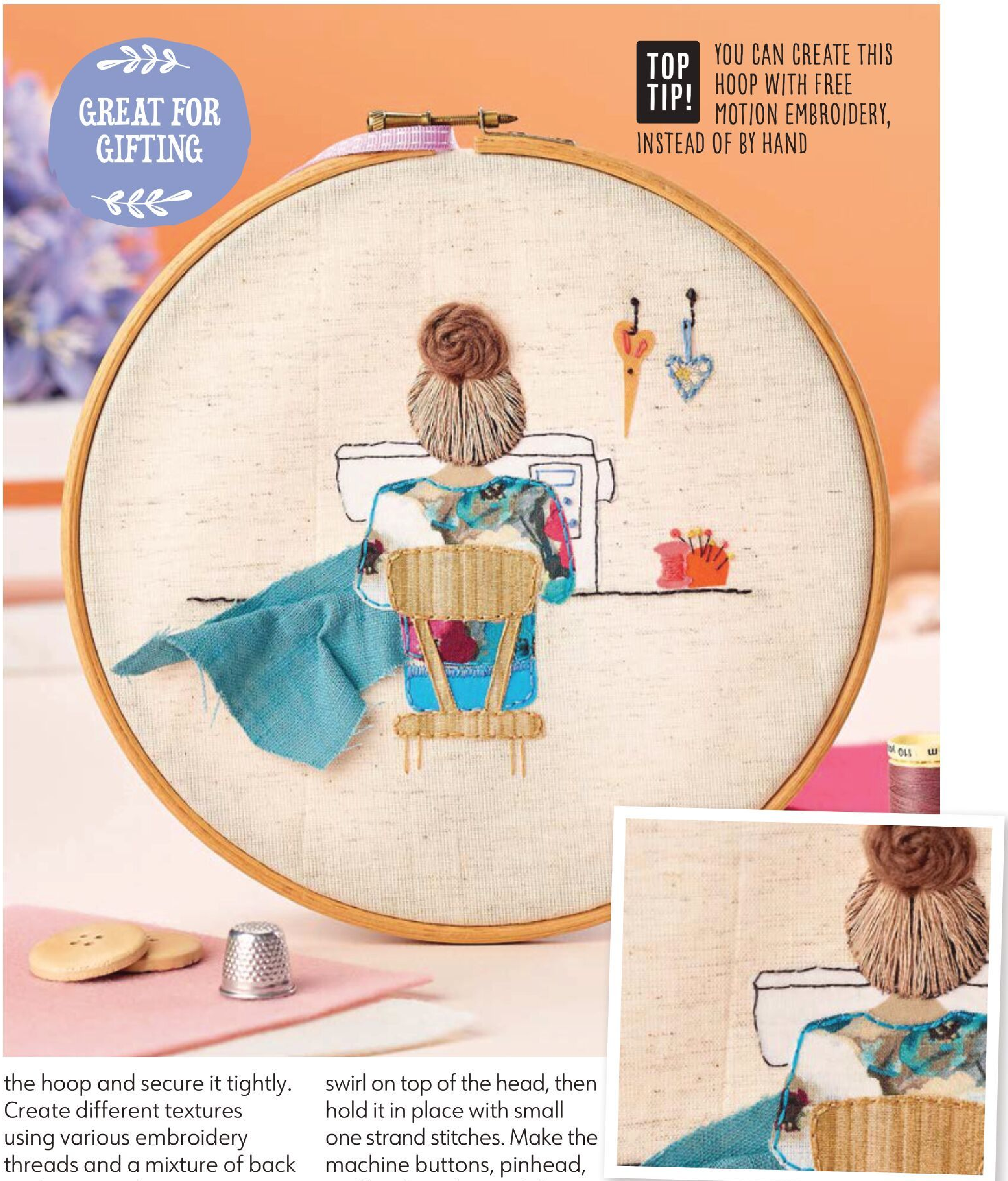
TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

What better way to pay tribute to your love of needlecrafts than with this 3D embroidery project?

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, linen; scraps
★ Embroidery hoop, 20cm
★ Iron-on interfacing
★ Fusible webbing
★ Embroidery stabiliser
★ Embroidery thread
★ Ribbon ★ Yarn, super chunky ★ Embroidery needle

NB: use 1cm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated



GREAT FOR GIFTING

TOP TIP! YOU CAN CREATE THIS HOOP WITH FREE MOTION EMBROIDERY, INSTEAD OF BY HAND

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Draw around the hoop onto firm weight interfacing. Snip 5cm around the edge of this line and cut out. Iron the interfacing onto the back of linen fabric. Using the template provided, trace the elements onto fusible webbing. Loosely snip them out and iron onto the back of your chosen fabric scraps. Cut out neatly.

2 Trace the design onto an embroidery stabiliser. Pin the top to the centre of the linen base fabric. This will be used to place the pieces. Cut a larger scrap of fabric to create the 3D material coming out of the sewing machine. Pin this to the linen base, using the traced design as a guide for positioning. Sew the fabric in place using one strand of embroidery thread.

3 Peel the backing paper from the fabric pieces and iron permanently in place, underneath the traced design. Take care as some will overlap the 3D fabric piece. Trim down the 3D material if needed. Place the design in the hoop and secure it tightly. Create different textures using various embroidery threads and a mixture of back and satin stitches.

4 Use large detached chain stitches to make the hair, with the holding stitches always meeting at the very top of the head. Take care over these as they will affect the direction of the hair. For the hair bun, use super chunky yarn to create a swirl on top of the head, then hold it in place with small one strand stitches. Make the machine buttons, pinhead, and hooks with French knots. Carefully peel away the embroidery stabiliser, then use a running stitch around the excess fabric on the back to draw it in, finishing with a secure knot. Add a piece of ribbon to the top of the hoop for hanging.

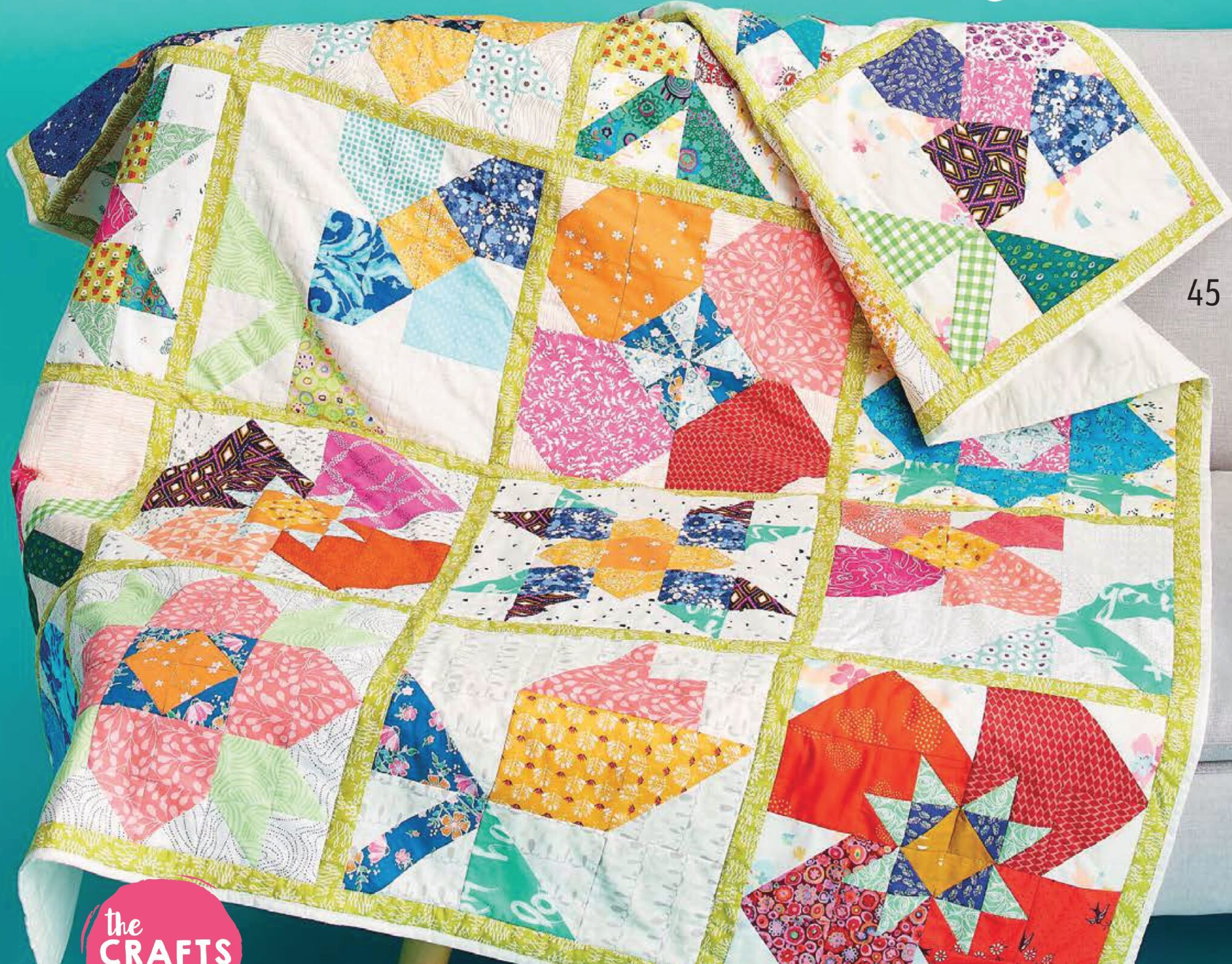
WHY NOT TRY...

Why not personalise your seamstress, so that she becomes a miniature version of yourself or the recipient of your gift?

JOIN THE QUILT-ALONG

Stitch a stunning home accessory with help from our **FREE** video tutorials and fabulous floral block templates

Tune into The Crafts Channel on You Tube to watch as Corinne Bradd, AKA The Queen of Quilts, offers a step-by-step guide to creating the six floral blocks featured on this gorgeous throw – Tulip, Poppy, Rose, Clematis, Bouvardia and Aubretia. Designed with all skill levels in mind, this project is a great starting point for newbies, but will also be a welcome treat for experienced makers who are looking to connect with their crafting community. All templates can be found at sewmag.co.uk/templates. So all that's left to do is sort through your stash, select your materials, and start stitching!



FIND THE TUTORIALS AT
youtube.com/
thecraftschannel.com

WHIP UP IN A JIFFY

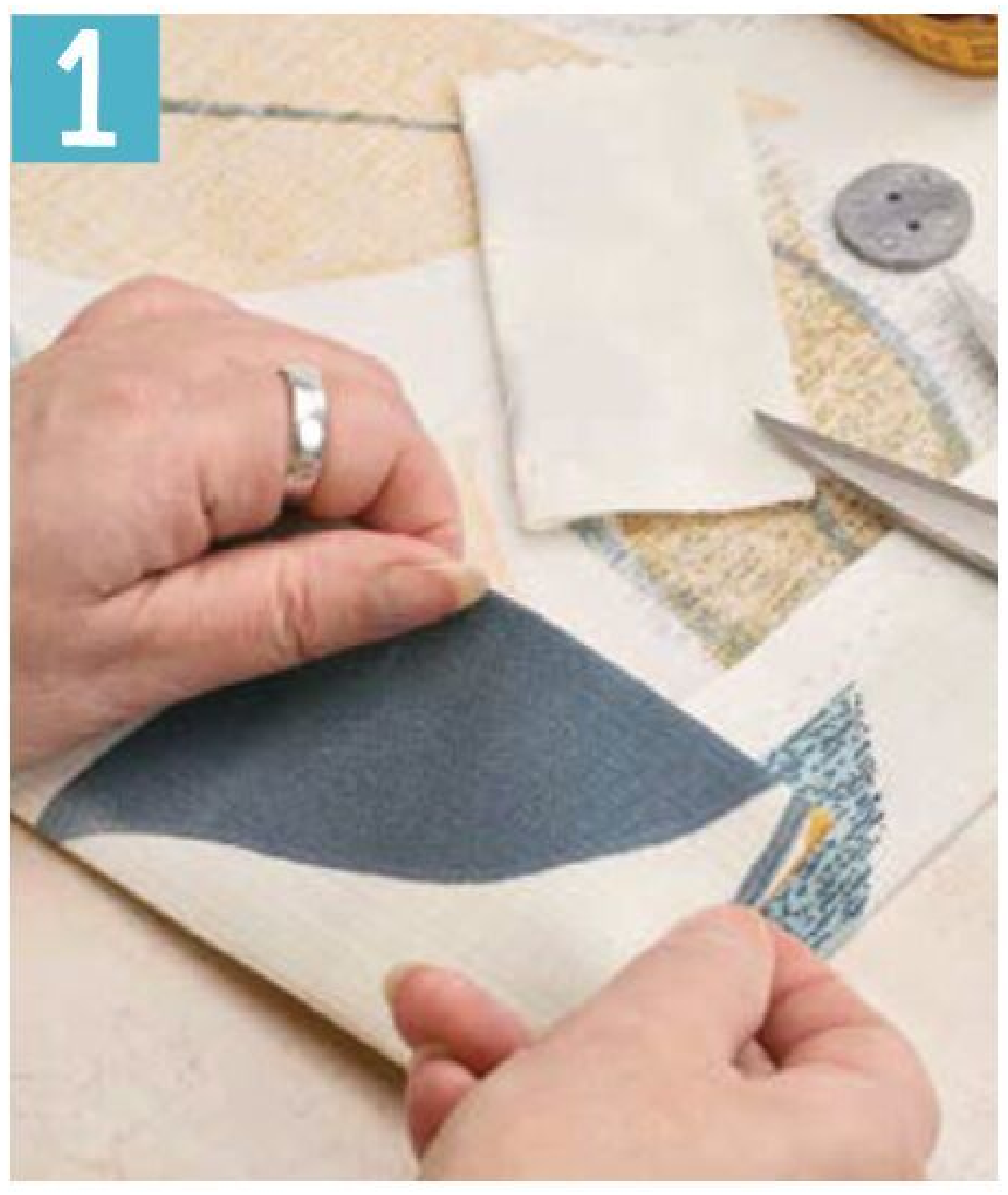
DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Lined curtains

Give your window dressings a professional finish and transform your room with our curtain masterclass

KIT LIST

★ Fabric ★ Curtain lining
★ Eyelet tape and eyelets
★ Curtain weights
★ Sewing machine with matching thread ★ Needle and matching thread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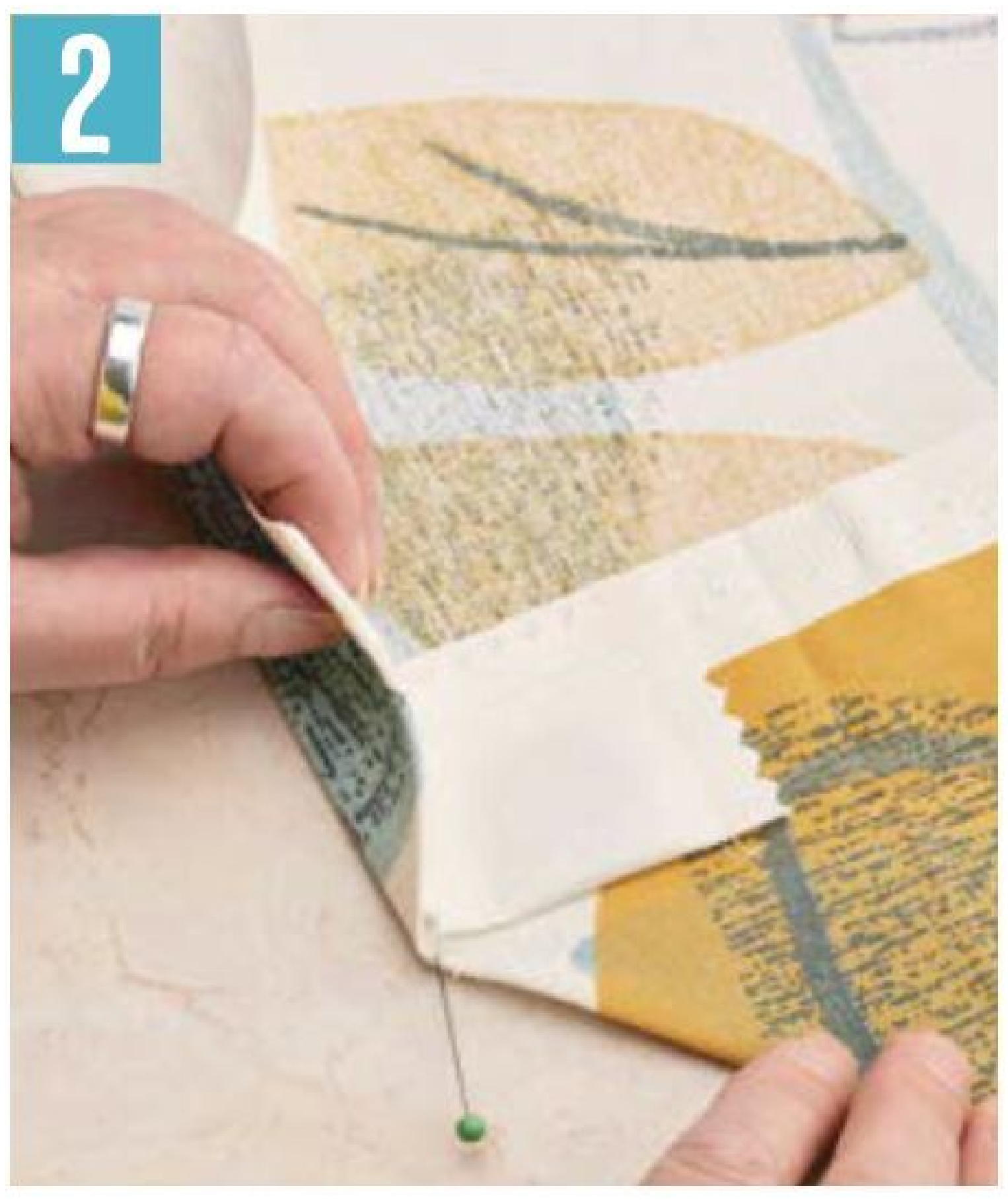
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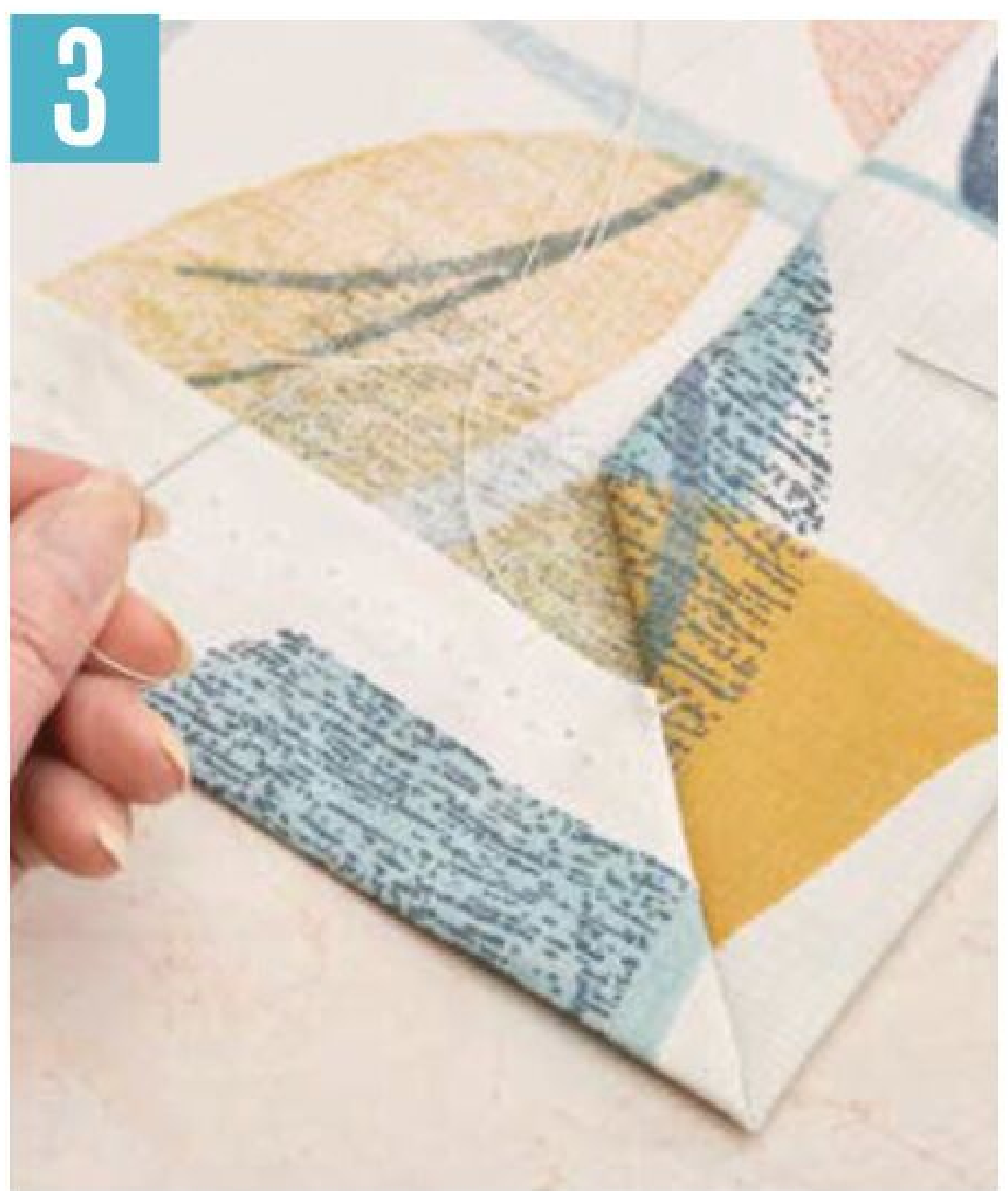
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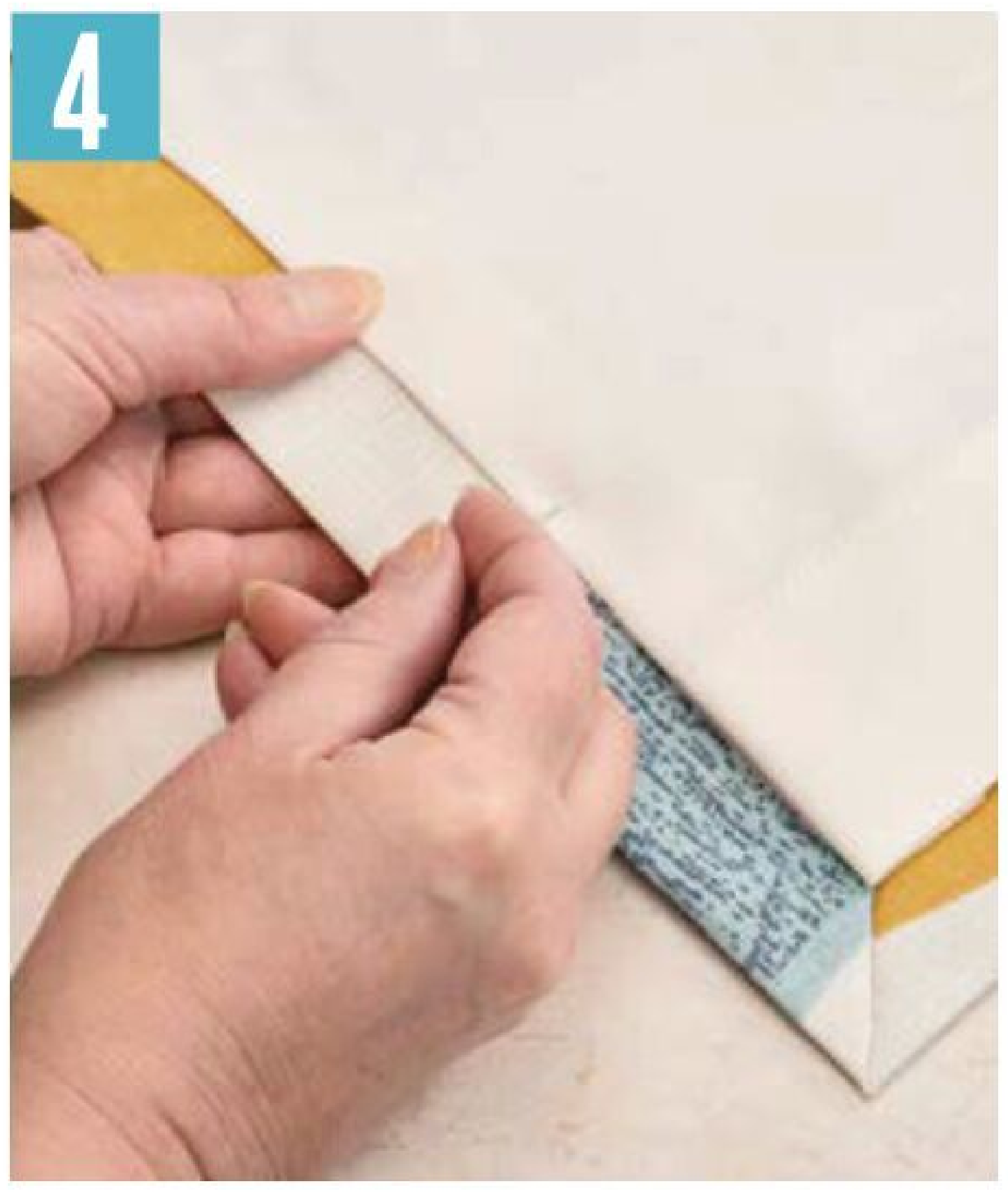
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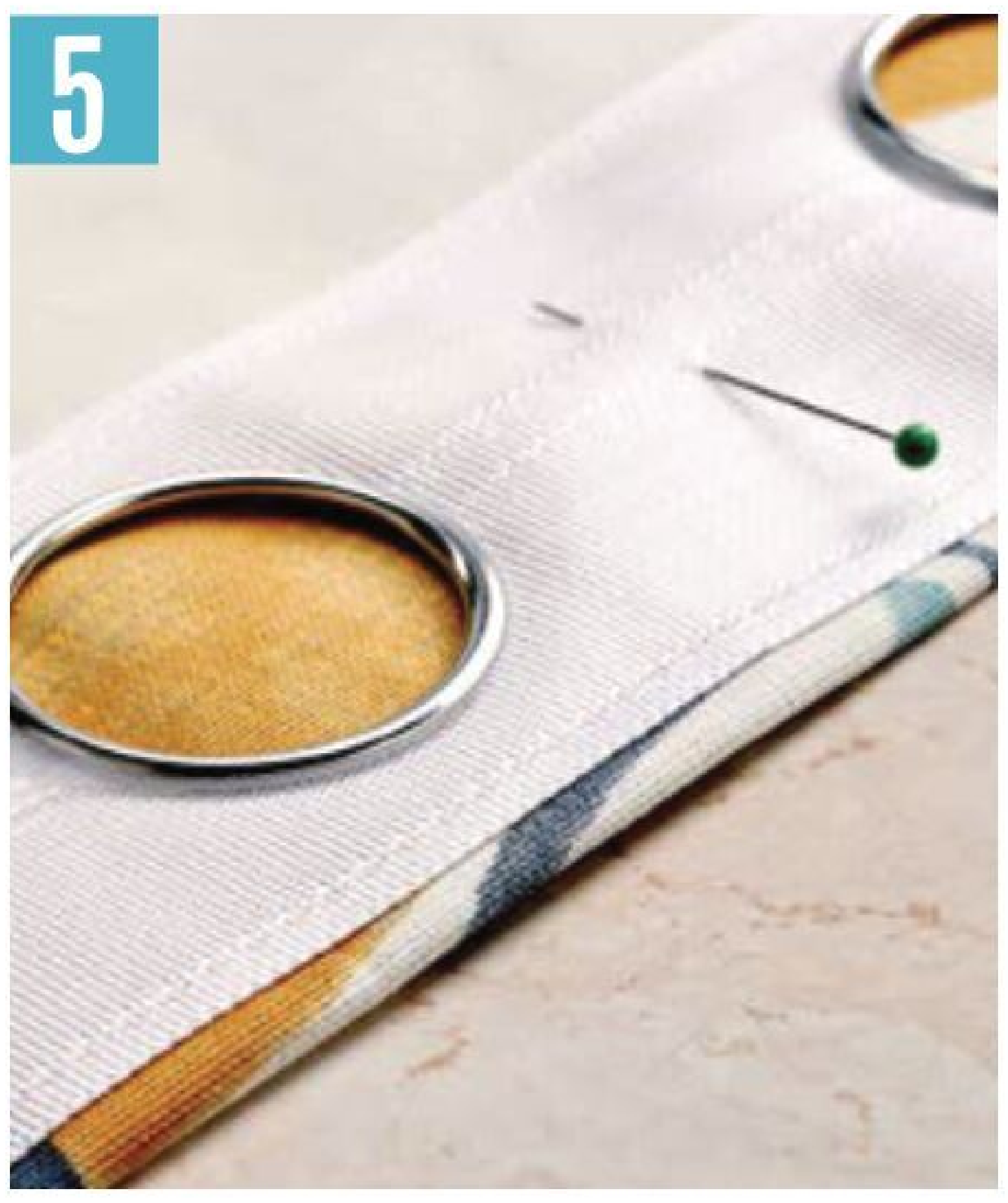
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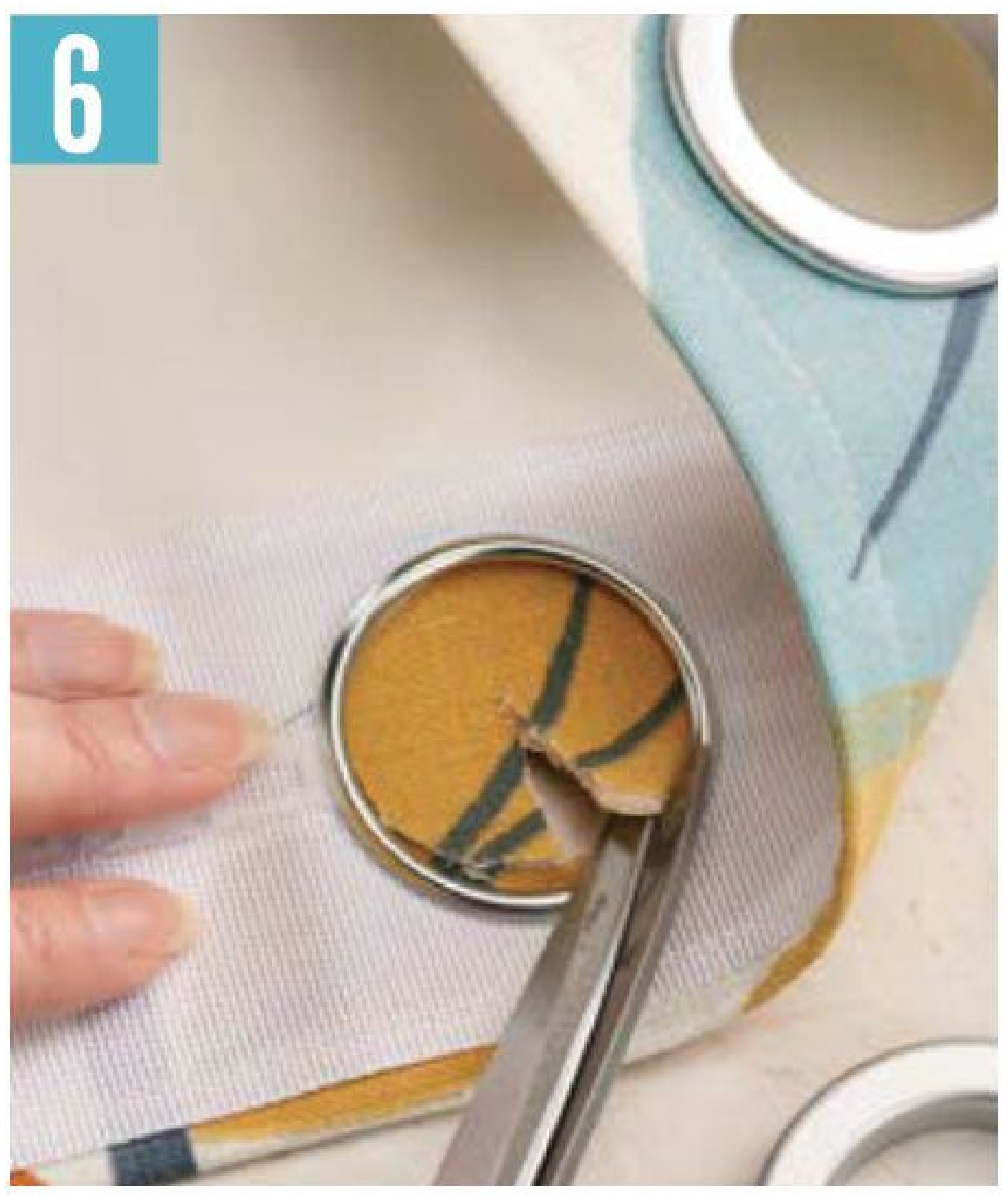

6

1 Measure from the top of the pole at your window down to the desired length of your curtains, then measure the length of your pole. As a rule, the length of the curtains should be approximately double the length of the pole. Add 15cm to the length to accommodate the hem, then an extra 1.5cm which will sit above the eyelets and pole. Add an extra 7cm which will turn back inside under the tape at the top of the curtains.

2 Cut out the amounts needed for your curtain, joining the widths of fabric if needed. Cut out the same amount of lining and join again. An even number of eyelets are needed to ensure that the leading edge and the side edge of the curtains are both pointing towards the wall. This needs to be considered when working out how much heading tape and how wide the finished widths of the curtain need to be.

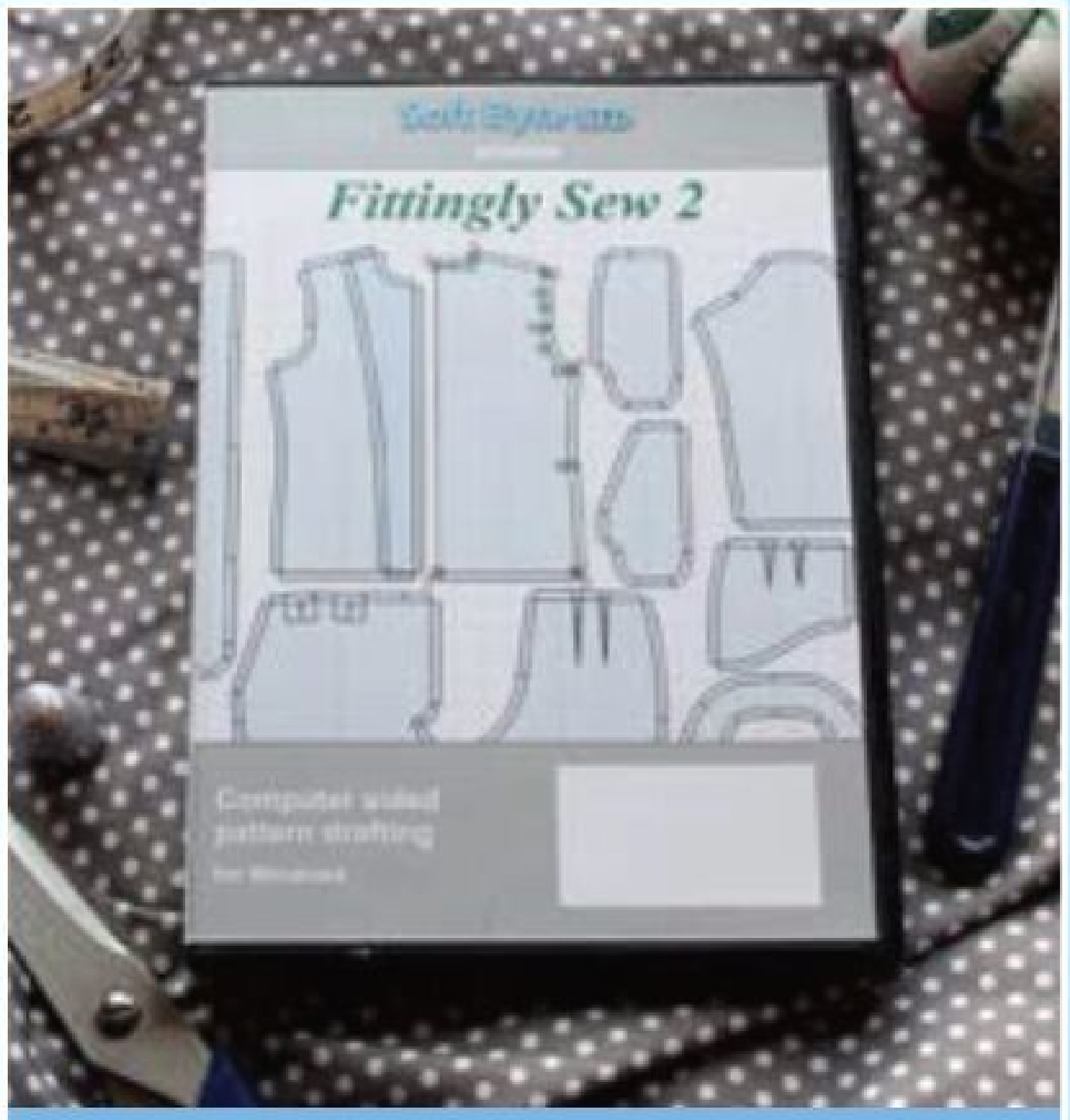
3 Fold and press in 5cm along each side edge, then fold and press a double 7.5cm at the base of the curtain. Place a pin into the corner at the base, unfold the pressed folds and turn the corner at a 45° angle, then refold and press forming a mitre. Unfold the side fold and one of the hem folds **[1]** and stitch the curtain weight into the loose flap. If you are using lead penny weights, they will need to be covered with scraps of curtain lining **[2]**. Repeat the process on the remaining corners.

4 Hand stitch the mitred corners, using a small ladder stitch, making sure you retain the point at the corner of the curtain **[3]**. Stitch each of the side edges, with a large, 6cm long stitch. Hand-sew the hem, using a hemming stitch.

5 Fold and machine stitch a double 5cm hem to the base of the lining. Position the lining to the curtain, 2.5cm from the base hem of the curtain, then turn under 2.5cm of the lining on each side edge, creating a 2.5cm border around the curtain. Use a ladder stitch to attach the lining to the curtain **[4]**. Stitch 8cm around onto the hem of the curtain to stop the lining rolling out when they are hung.

6 Cut away the excess lining, then fold and press the 7cm down at the top of the curtains. Check the length of the curtain before pinning the heading tape to the top of the curtain **[5]**. Machine stitch the tape to the top of the curtain, turning the tape in at either side.

7 Cut out round discs inside each of the metal circles **[6]** on the heading tape and click eyelets onto the right side of the curtain into each hole. The plastic tabs on either side of the eyelets on the tape can be connected together to form the waves, then the curtains can be threaded onto the curtain pole.



Say hello to Fittingly Sew 2 from Soft Byte, a program for computer-aided pattern drafting and designing your own fabric. For the latter, use your own drawings or photos, then simply adjust the scale to suit and create a print file, which you can send out to fabric printing companies. To find out more, visit **softbyte.co.uk**

TOP TIPS

★ The curtain size will need to be wider than the area of window you want to cover so that the curtain still has folds and fullness in it when closed

★ Measure carefully, draw a layout to help you plan your curtains, and triple check your measurements. It's a good idea to hang the pole before you measure – ensure that it extends beyond the window at either side to allow room for the curtains to be drawn back off the window. You may like to hang the pole higher and wider than you really need to give the illusion of larger windows

★ If you need to join fabric panels to achieve the correct width for your curtain, position the seam line closer to the edge of the window

★ Consider how your pattern will sit, especially if it has a large repeat. Don't forget that you will lose a small section of fabric into the seam allowance. Likewise think about how the print will come together when the curtains are drawn – you may need to buy more fabric to ensure a neat match

★ Though pressing can be a chore, it will ensure that the hem and edges of the curtain sit neatly, and you will appreciate your efforts once the curtain is hung up!

DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Roman blind

DIAGRAM SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS.COM

Our step-by-step guide will help even the most novice of stitchers create a beautiful design, sewn to last

KIT LIST

★ Face fabric ★ Lining ★ Wooden dowels, 6mm ★ Wooden battens: flat, 3cm wide; square, 2.5cm wide ★ Eye screws ★ Cleat and toggle ★ Roman blind cord ★ Plastic rings ★ Velcro

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Decide whether you want your blind to fit inside or outside your window recess. Our blind has been made to fit neatly inside. To calculate dimensions for this, measure your window. Our window is 44cm wide and 88cm long. Note your measurements down.

FACE FABRIC

To calculate the size of the face fabric, take your window measurement. Add 10cm to the width and 15cm to the length. For our blind, our face fabric is 54cm wide and 103cm long. Cut out your face fabric.

HOW MANY PLEATS?

Using your original window measurements, deduct 4cm from the length. In the case of our blind, this is 88cm minus 4cm which leaves us with 84cm. Divide this figure by an odd number; the higher the number, the more folds with be formed. Refer to our key (right) for guidance. Our blind has three folds, so we divided by 7. 84cm divided by 7 is 12cm (A). This figure is now the measurement for a half pleat, which forms the first fold of your blind (at the bottom). The next two full pleats will be double this, so 24cm (B). Add the original 4cm that you took off at the beginning back into the measurement for the top pleat. For our blind, this means that the last pleat (at the top) is 28cm (C) in length. Refer to our diagram online at 100daysofcrafts.com for further guidance.

ROMAN BLINDS

1 Fold and press in 2.5cm on each side edge of the lining. Mark up 12cm (A) from the base of the lining to make the first half pleat. Mark with a ruler and pencil the 3cm pocket and then continue to mark the remaining double measurement pleats (B) in the same manner. Bring the two sides of the pleats together and stitch through to form the casing for each dowel.

2 Fold and press in 5cm along each side of the face fabric.

3 Centre the lining to the back of the face fabric, position it 7cm from the base and pin in place. Using a ladder stitch, attach the lining to the back of the face fabric.

4 At the base, fold and press up 3.5cm then 3.5cm again. Hand stitch across this base channel, with hemming stitch.

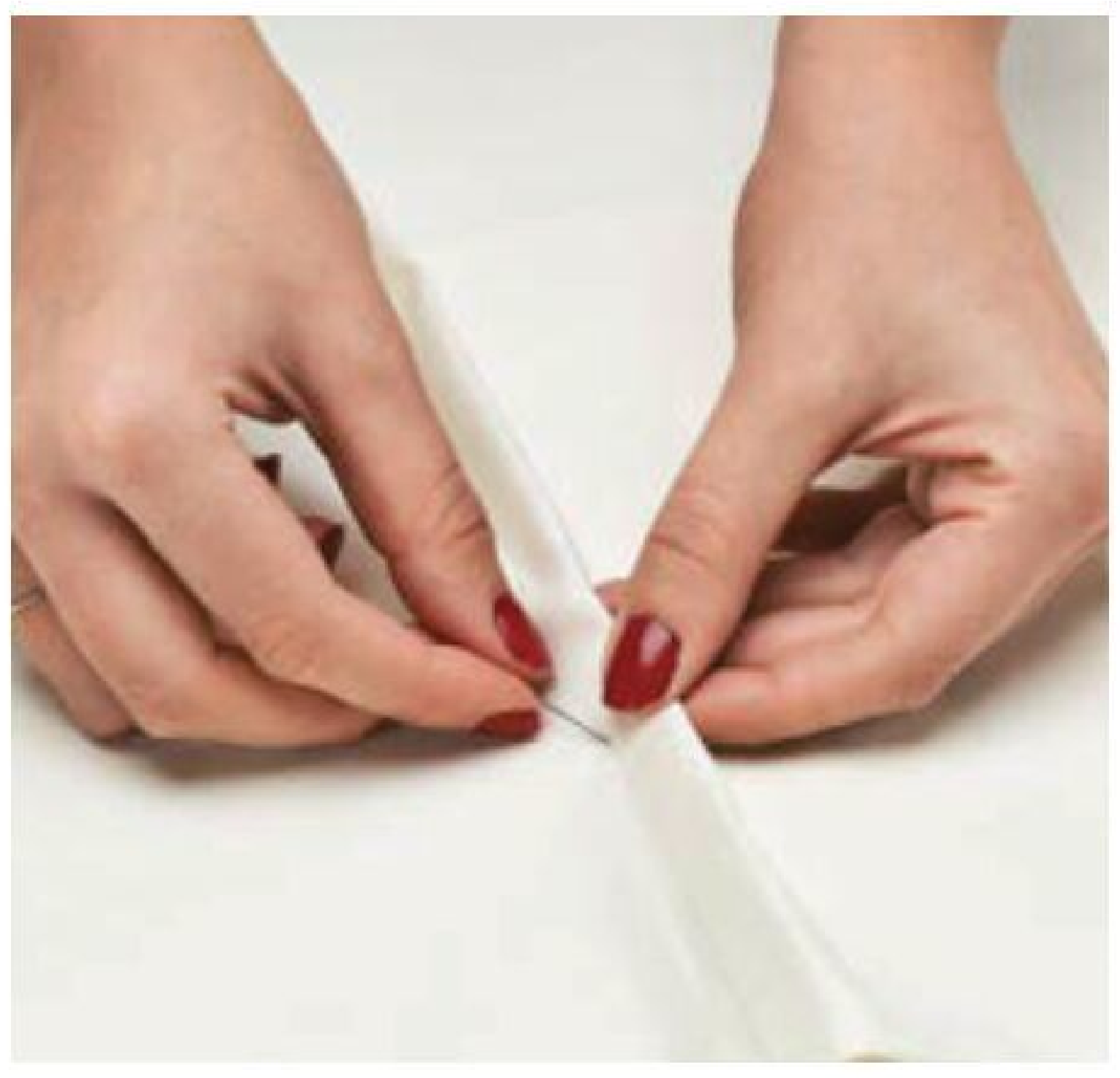
5 Measure in approximately 10cm from each side of the blind and mark this point. Stitch a ring to the fold at the edge of each pleat. Continue stitching rings to the remaining pleats. Stab stitch underneath each of the rings at intervals of between 20cm and 25cm. Stitch through the lining to the front of the blind along the first stitching line of the pleats.

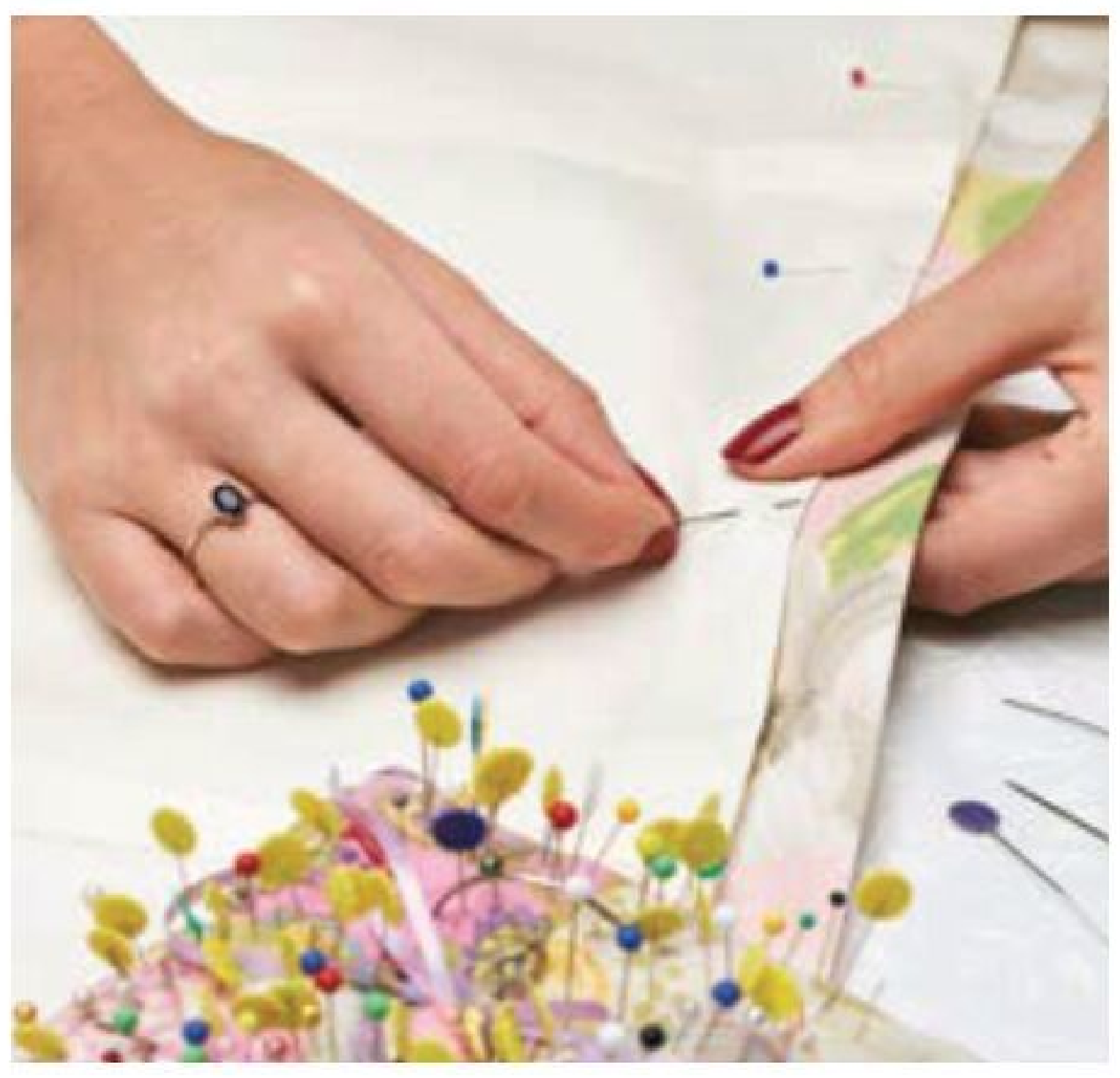
6 Check and mark the finished length measurement of the blind and then fold and press along this measurement at the top of the blind. Unfold this section; position and pin the soft side of the Velcro above the fold line and machine stitch in place across the top of the Velcro. Trim off any excess fabric underneath this, refold the top of the blind and then hand stitch the lower edge of the Velcro to just the lining; the raw edges will be concealed.

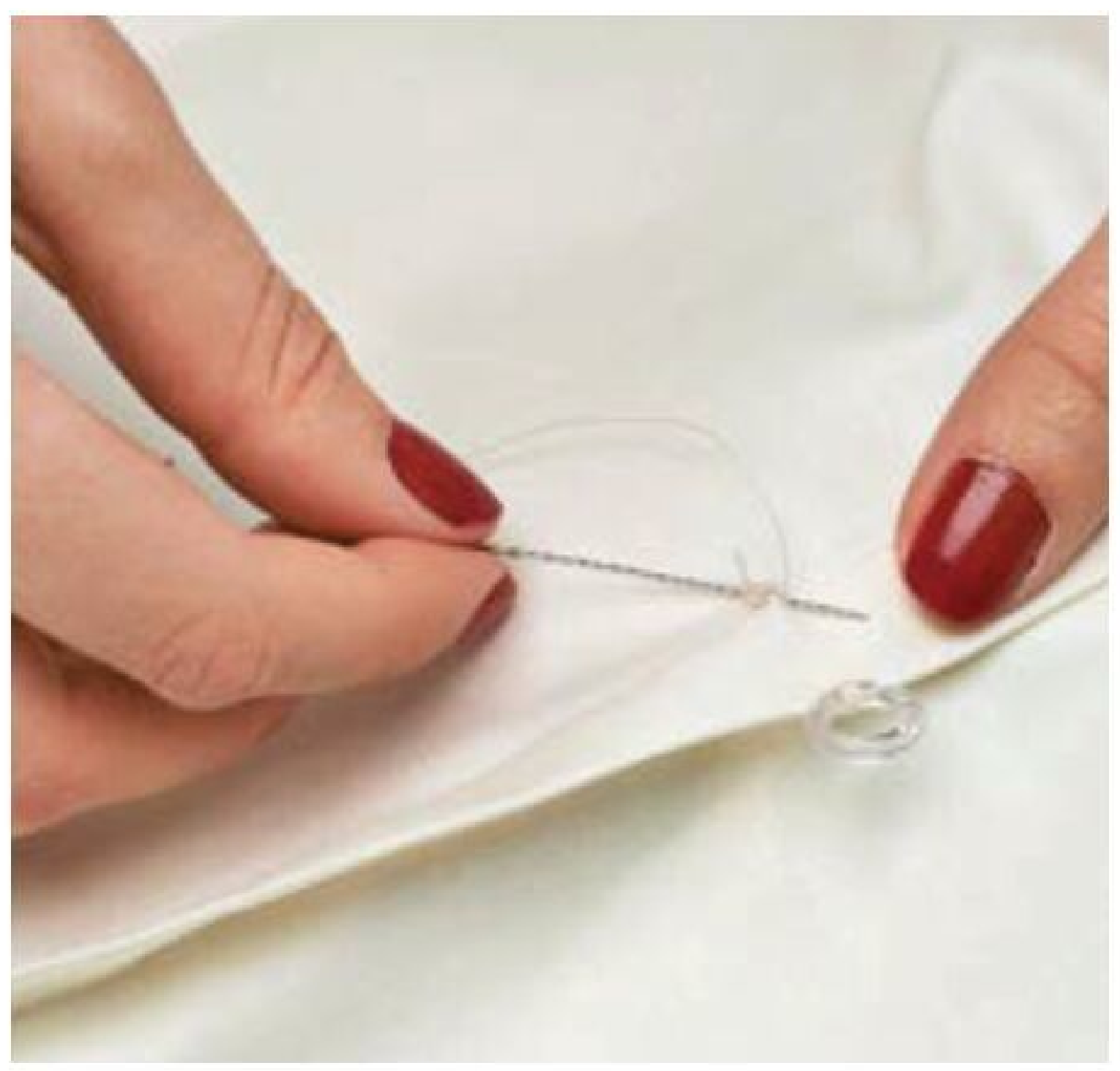
7 Cut the dowel to the casing measurement and the bottom batten to the width of the blind. Insert dowel and batten, sealing the pocket ends and base channel. Cut the top batten 1cm shorter than the width of the blind.

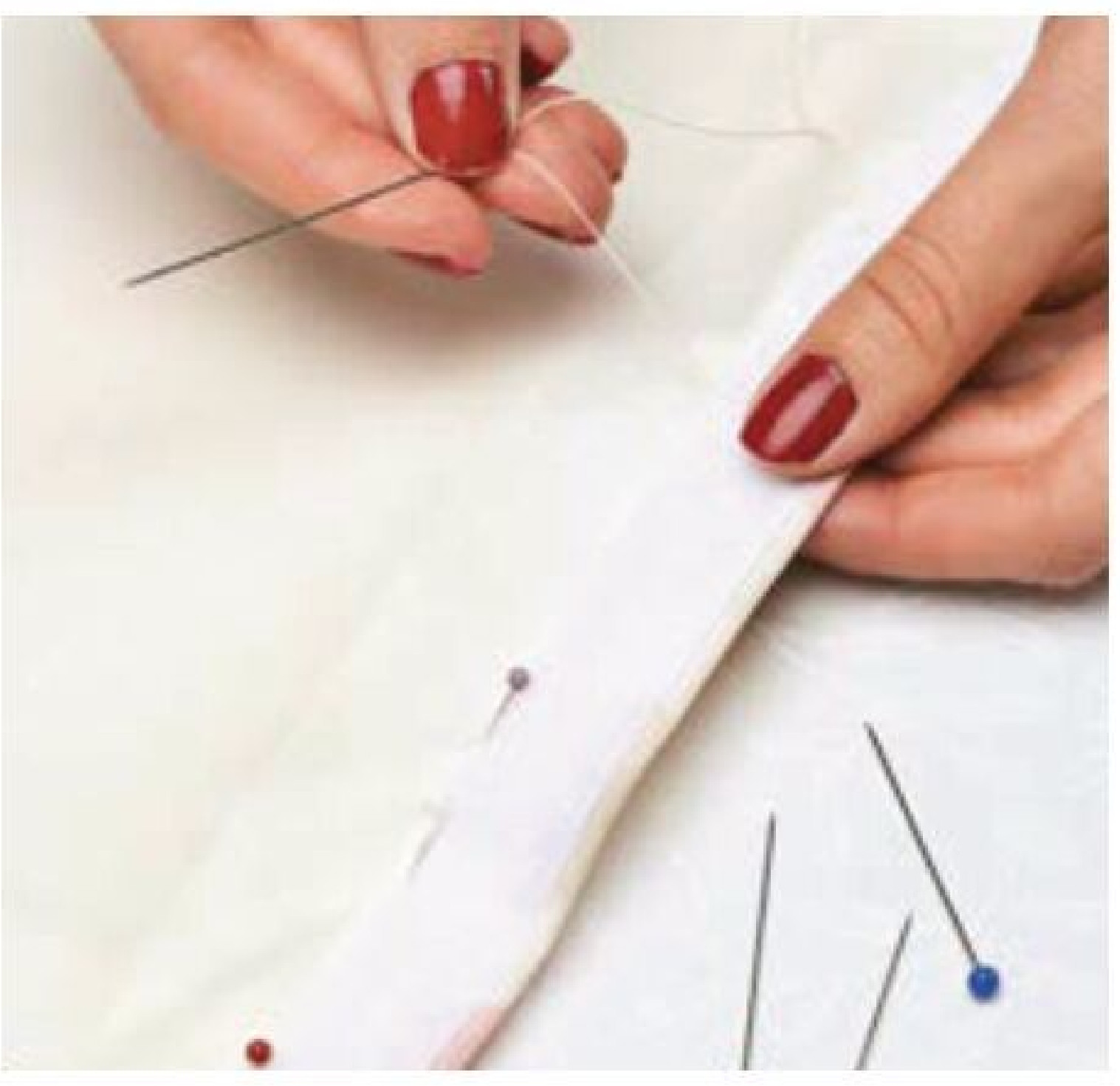
8 Cover the batten with either lining or face fabric. Secure the Velcro to the top of the batten. Mark 10cm (or the measurement of the outside rings on the blind) in from each end of the underside of the batten and place screw eyes; attach an extra one to the side edge that will pull up. Mount the batten onto the wall or window frame.

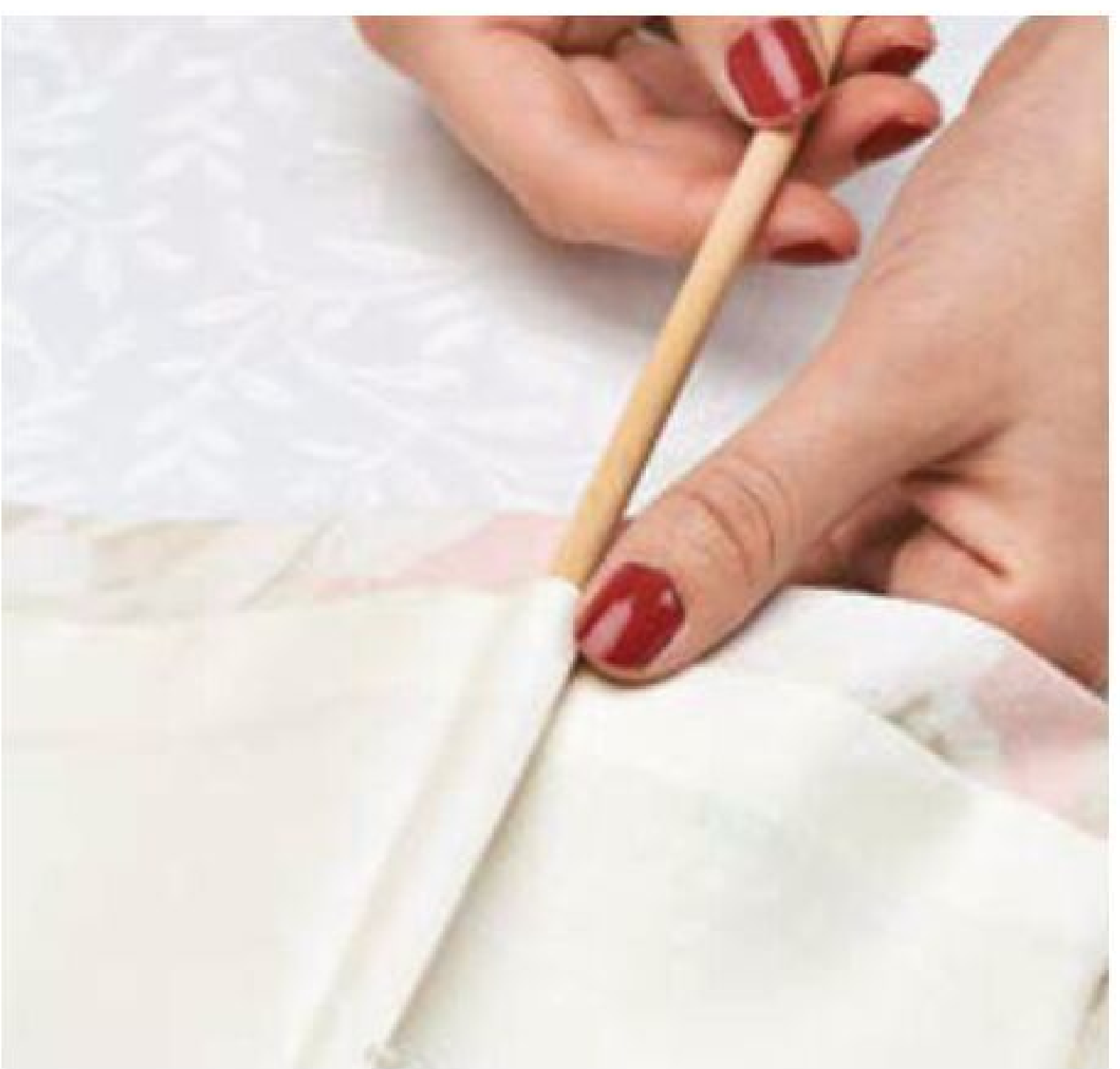
9 Secure a length of blind cord to the bottom pleat rings and thread up through the other rings. Mount the blind onto the top of the batten by joining the Velcro. Pass the cords through the screw eyes, ensuring the left side cord runs through the right side screw eye. Pull to raise the blind and form folds. Push the cord ends through the toggle and knot.

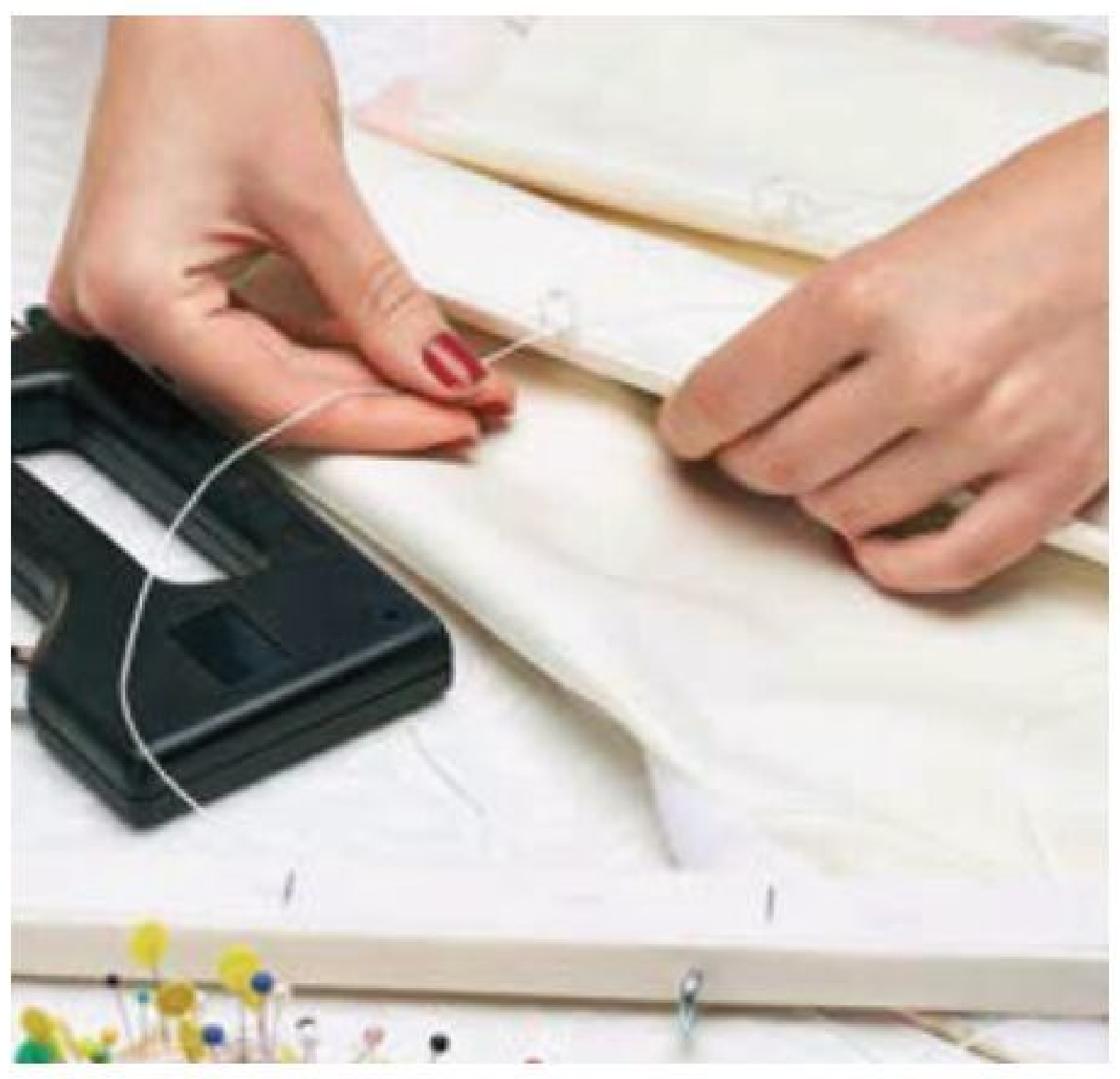












EXPAND YOUR SKILLS

TOP TIP! IF THE BLIND IS WIDER THAN 65CM A CENTRAL RING WILL NEED TO BE ADDED

PLEAT CALCULATION

NO. OF PLEATS	DIVIDE BY:
2	5
3	7
4	9
5	11
6	13

DESIGNER **SUSIE JOHNS**

Fruity lunch bags

Made from cotton fabric, these totes are just the right size to keep your sandwich, drink and fruit fresh throughout the day

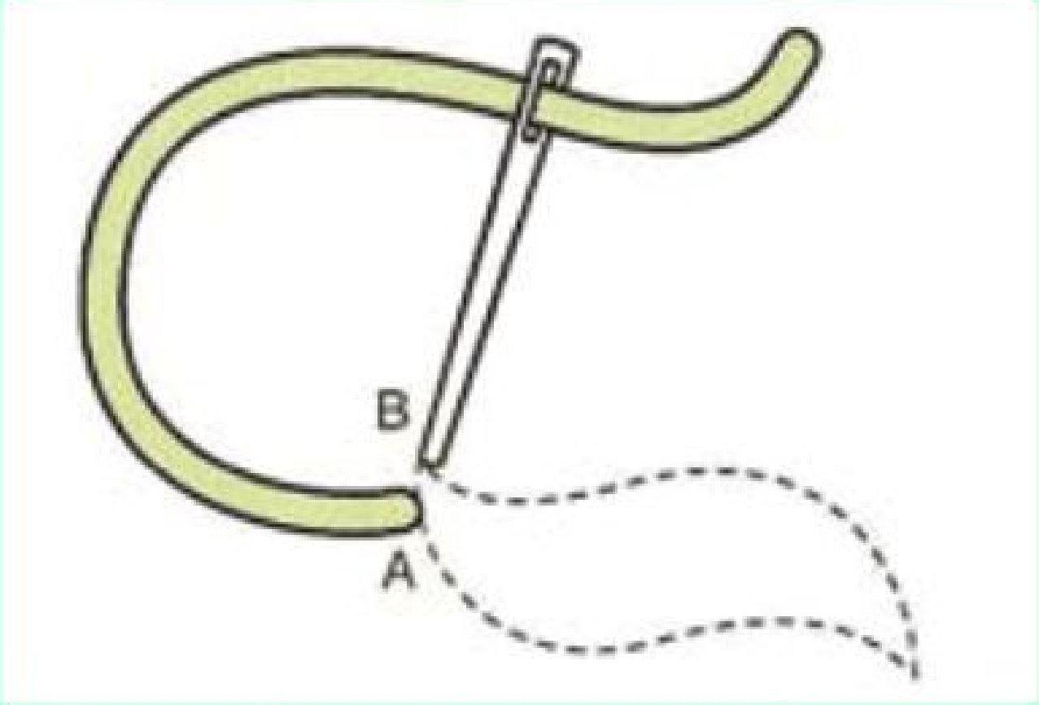
KIT LIST

- ★ Cotton, plain or printed, four, 21cm x 30cm
- ★ Embroidery thread, assorted colours
- ★ Embroidery hoop
- ★ Elastic cord, 10cm
- ★ Button

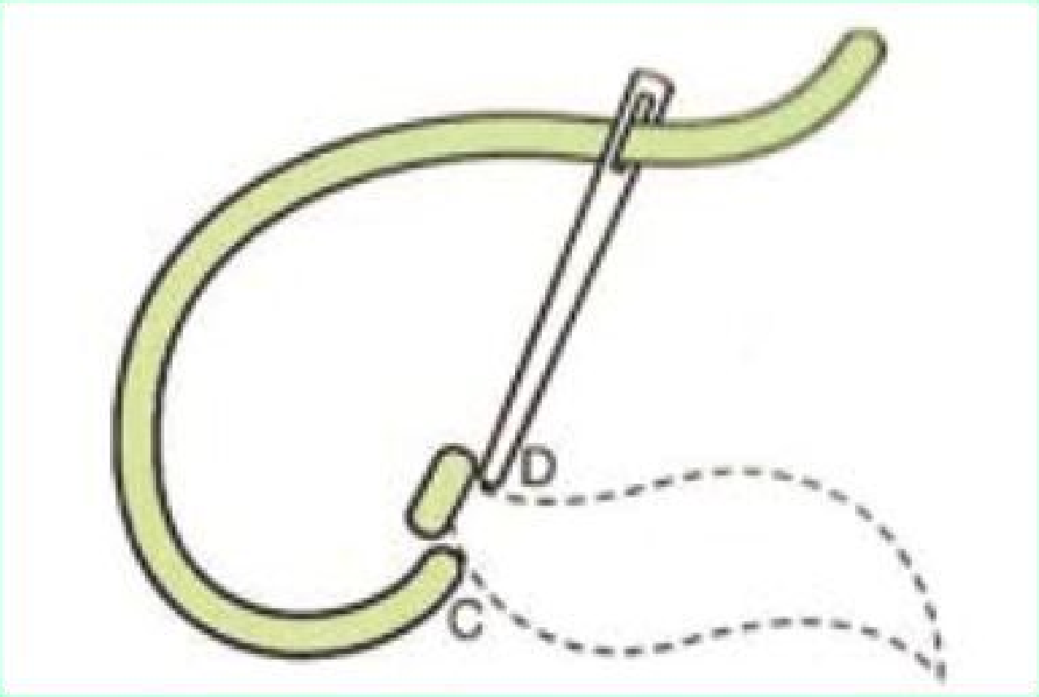
Size: 16cm x 20cm

MINDFUL MAKE

SATIN STITCH



Draw the shape to be filled and take the needle in and out of the fabric just outside the shape, coming out at A and down through the fabric at B.



Bring the needle back out at C which sits close to A. Insert the needle at D, on the upper design line. Repeat, keeping stitches close together so no fabric shows through

EMBROIDER THE DESIGN

1 Download and print the template from 100daysofcrafts.com. Draw the design on to fabric, 21cm x 30cm, then place the material in an embroidery hoop. For the banana, thread the embroidery needle with three strands of cream embroidery thread. Fill in the area of exposed fruit and the two slices. Change to beige for the inside of the skin and yellow for the outside. Use green for the stalk and brown for the two tips of the banana. When all the sections have been covered with satin stitch, thread the needle with two strands of brown thread and back-stitch along the lines of the banana skin. Add a few small individual straight stitches to the slices, using the photo as a guide.

2 For the lemons and lime, take three strands of white thread and embroider the divisions between the segments on all three pieces of fruit. Stitch the lemon pips using beige. Complete the segments on the upper lemon using yellow thread and on the lower half using yellow. Fill the segments on the lime using light green thread. Using white, embroider the rest of the pith on all three fruits, then stitch the outer peel in yellow for the two lemons and in green for the lime. Using two strands of light green thread, embroider the stems on the two leaves and stitch in the main parts of the leaves using dark green.

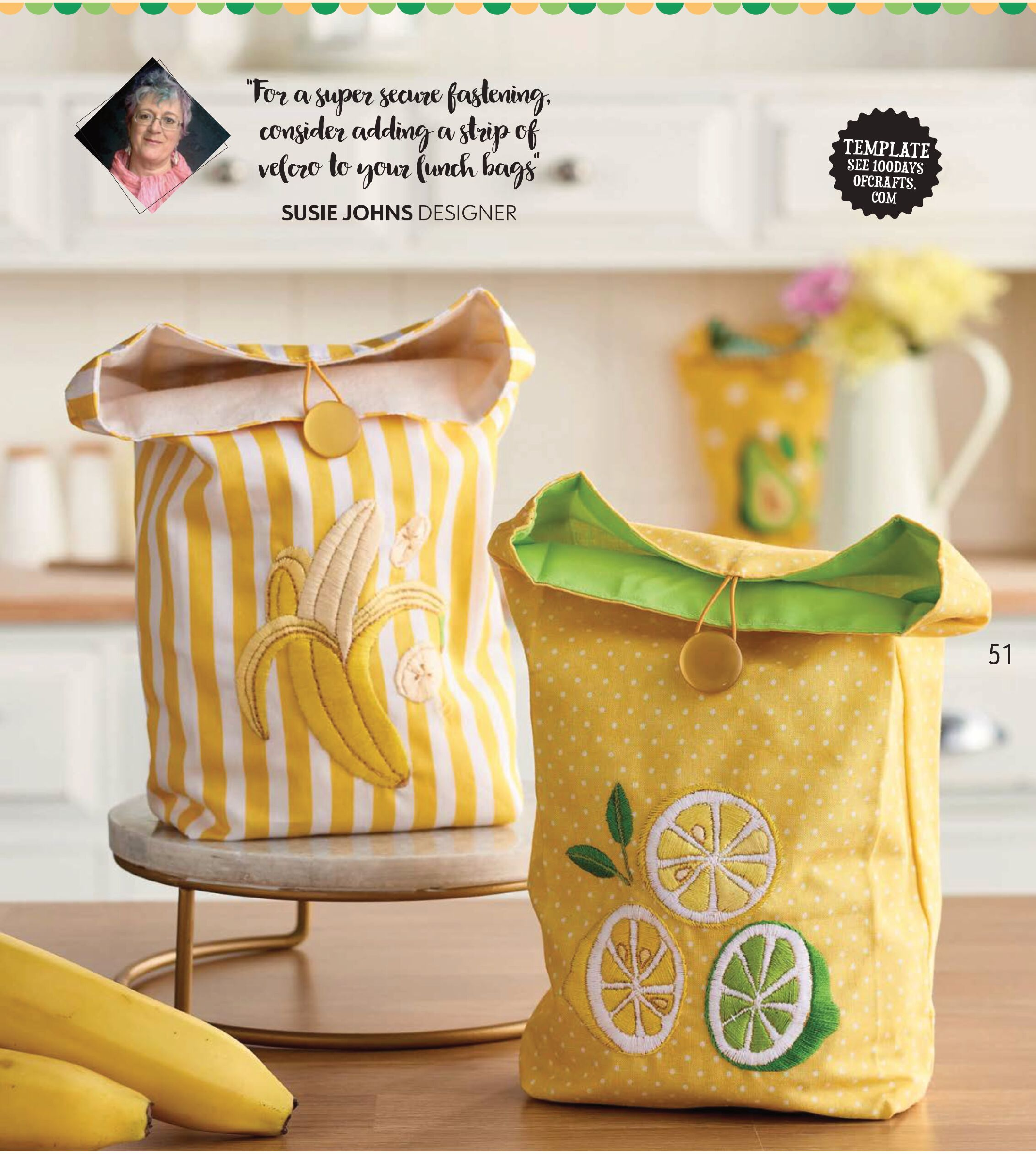
3 For the avocados, start with the stone on the larger piece, covering half with beige thread and half with brown. Change to cream and fill in the section surrounding the stone and the smallest part of the other piece. Working outwards, use light green, green, then dark green to complete both pieces of avocado. Using two strands of light green for the leaf, stitch the stem and veins using stem stitch. Cover the rest of the section using three strands of emerald green thread. Remove the fabric from the hoop and press lightly on the wrong side.

MAKE THE BAG

1 For the outer part of the bag, mark a 3cm square on each of the two lower corners of the front, back and two lining pieces. Cut out these squares. Place the front and back sections together, right sides facing. Using a 1cm seam allowance, sew along the two long edges and the lower short edge, leaving the top open, then press the seams open.

2 Match the side seam with the bottom seam to form the bottom corners. Pin in place, then stitch across the pin line with a 1cm seam allowance. Remove the pins as you sew. Turn the bag right side out. Repeat this process for the lining fabric, leaving a 10cm opening along the bottom for turning through. Insert the outer piece into the lining piece, so the right sides are together.

3 Take a 10cm length of elastic cord, fold it in half and pin to the top centre of the bag, between the lining fabric and the outer fabric. Line up the cut edges of the elastic with the raw edges of the fabric. Line up all of



"For a super secure fastening, consider adding a strip of velcro to your lunch bags"

SUSIE JOHNS DESIGNER

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

the raw edges at the top of the bag and sew around the top edge using a 1cm seam, stitching over the ends of the elastic twice so that it is securely attached.

4 Turn the bag right sides out by pulling the outer fabric through the opening in the bottom seam of the lining. Stitch the opening closed, then tuck the lining back into the bag. Topstitch around the top edge of the bag to hold the lining and the elastic loop in place. Measure 15cm from the top of the bag and attach the button to the centre front.

TOP TIP! FILL THE INSIDE OF THE SHAPE WITH ROWS OF RUNNING STITCH IN THE SAME COLOURED THREAD TO PREVENT THE FABRIC SHOWING THROUGH

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

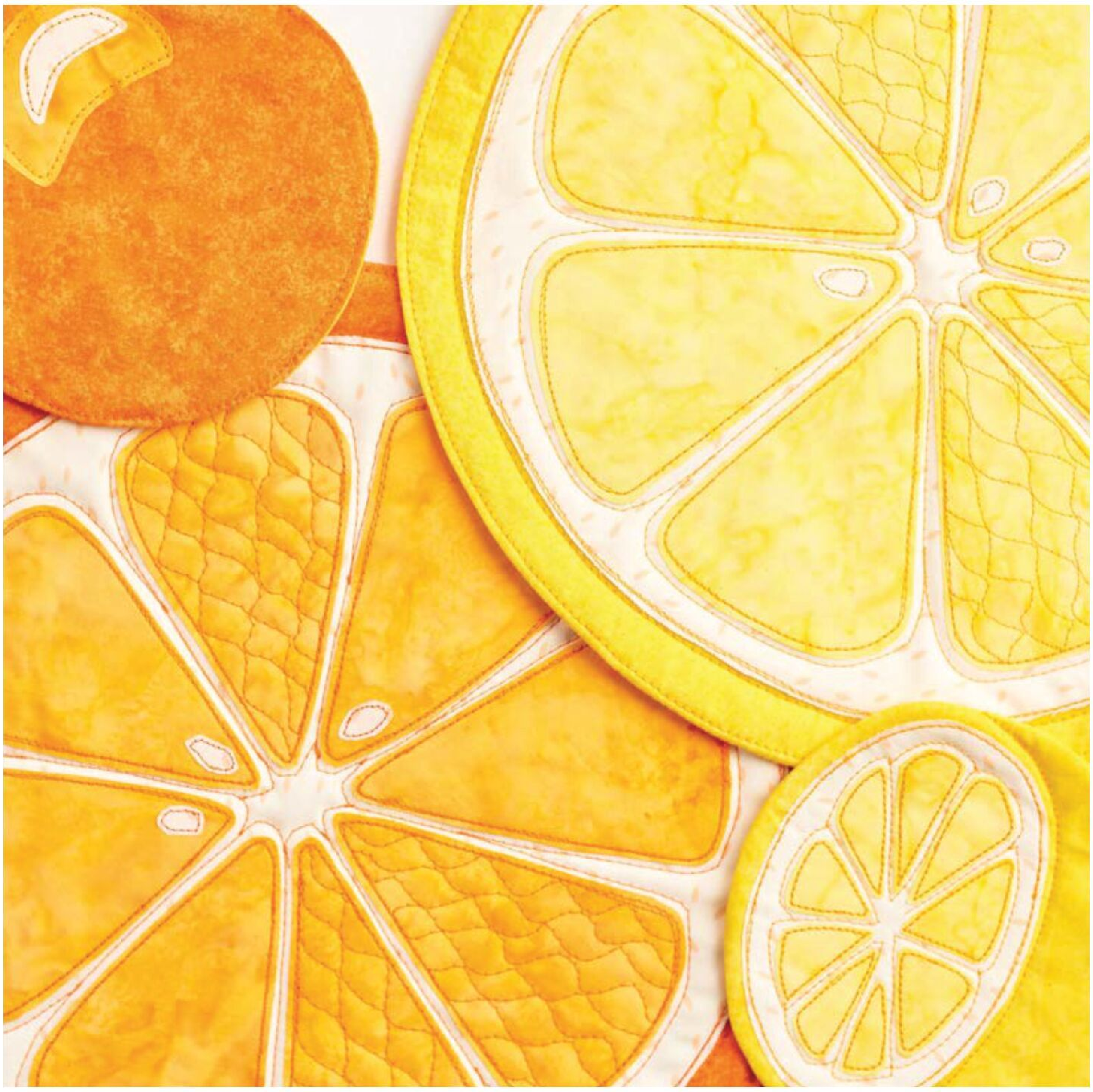
Citrus table set

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

Pay homage to the summer with this gorgeous placemat and coaster set

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: white, patterned; yellow, two shades; orange, two shades; green, scraps (we used the Batik Basics Collection by Sew Simple, thelittlehouseofpatchwork.co.uk) ★ Wadding ★ Iron-on interfacing, lightweight ★ Water erasable pen ★ Acid-free glue stick



LEMON PLACEMAT

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut out all eight segments from the paler yellow batik print fabric. Snip a 25cm diameter circle from white patterned fabric and back it with the interfacing. Glue the segments in place with acid-free glue onto the white fabric as shown, so that there are equal gaps in between and an equal border around the outside. Clip away the pips from the white fabric and glue in place.

2 Cut out a 29cm diameter circle from the brighter yellow fabric. Place the segmented piece in the middle and pin. Using a dark ochre-colored thread, stitch around the segment and pip pieces twice, just in from the raw edges and sew the lattice detail onto three of the segments. Stitch twice around the edge of the white circle with the same thread. Iron on the reverse.

3 Lay the sewn piece right sides together with a circle of the bright yellow fabric, which is cut slightly larger, onto a piece of wadding cut slightly larger and pin together. With a matching thread, stitch a 0.5mm seam all the way around, leaving a gap for turning. Use pinking shears to cut away the excess fabric and wadding almost up to the line of sewing. Turn right side out, close the gap by hand stitching and iron on reverse.

4 Machine quilt onto the white fabric using the ochre thread in between and around all the segments. Using a matching thread, sew around the edge of the placemat, just in from the edge and around the raw edge of the white fabric.

ORANGE PLACEMAT

1 Using the paler orange batik fabric for the segments and the darker orange for the peel, repeat the instructions for the lemon placemat.

LEMON COASTER

1 Using the templates cut out the lemon in one piece and place onto bright yellow fabric, snipping a 1cm border all the way around. Cut the paper template into two pieces along the inner curved line and use the oval cross-section to cut one the same size from the white patterned fabric. Back with interfacing, then pin it onto the main bright yellow fabric so there is a 1cm border of yellow along the outer curved edge. Using ochre thread, sew around the oval edge and iron on reverse.

2 Snip the individual segment pieces out of the oval paper cross-section. Use them to cut out the segments in pale yellow batik fabric.

Use the glue to hold in place on the white patterned fabric. Allow to dry, then use the same thread to stitch each segment in place.

3 Pin the finished front right sides together with a piece of bright yellow fabric cut slightly larger with a piece of wadding underneath. Sew a 5mm seam, leaving a gap for turning, then snip away all excess fabric and wadding close to the stitch line. Turn right side out, close the gap, then iron.

4 To finish, machine quilt the inner curve on the yellow fabric in ochre thread and sew around all the segments on the white fabric.

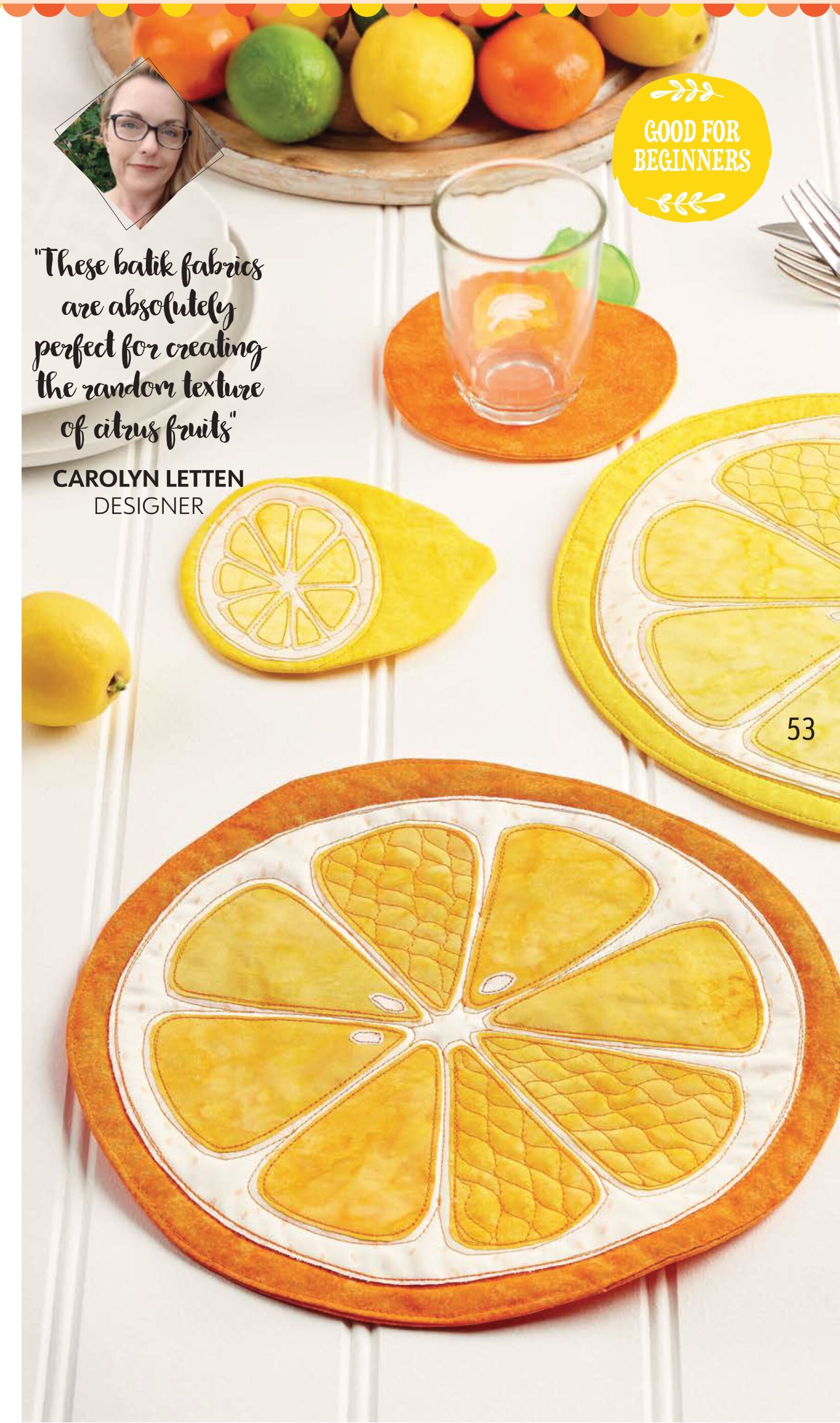
ORANGE COASTER

1 Using the templates cut two from dark orange fabric, turning the template over for the second. Cut the highlight pieces from light orange and the white fabric, then stitch them in place as shown with a dark orange thread. Iron on reverse and set aside.

2 Cut a front and back from the green fabric using the leaf template. Pin them right sides together with a piece of wadding underneath and sew the 5mm seam all around, making sure to leave the bottom unstitched. Snip away all excess close to the stitch line, turn right side out and iron. Topstitch around the edge in green thread and sew a central vein.

3 Pin the orange front and back right sides together with a piece of wadding underneath. Leave the top unstitched as indicated on the template by the two lines and sew a 5mm seam all the way around. Clip excess fabric away and turn right side out. Place the raw bottom edge of the leaf inside the gap left, then topstitch the orange all the way in dark orange thread.

TOP TIP! IF YOU PREFER A THICKER PLACEMAT, SEW YOUR FINISHED FRUIT PIECE TO A FELT BACKING



GOOD FOR BEGINNERS

"These batik fabrics are absolutely perfect for creating the random texture of citrus fruits"

CAROLYN LETTEN
DESIGNER

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Journal set

Use a notebook to keep your planting schedule, tips and inspo in one place, and make a coordinating pocket for seed packets

KIT LIST

★ A5 journal with 1cm spine ★ Fabric: floral prints, two; bright yellow; pale yellow; green spot; scraps, salmon pink, pale brown, dark green; lining ★ Lightweight fusible interfacing ★ Ric-rac trim: green, pink, 10cm each ★ Acid-free glue stick ★ White tissue

NB: use 5mm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated

NOTEBOOK COVER

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut out a daffodil head and bud from yellow fabric, a trumpet from salmon and a long stalk from dark green. Mark out the placement by wrapping the cover around the journal and tucking the front and back flaps inside the cover. Use an acid-free glue stick to secure the flowers in the correct place, then allow to dry. Remove the journal and sew in place using navy thread.

2 Use the template to trace the words onto white tissue, check the placement again and pin the tissue in place. Use navy thread to stitch twice over the words then tear the tissue away. Iron on the reverse.

3 Pin the finished front right sides together with your chosen lining, which is cut to the same size. Sew a 5mm seam all the way around, leaving an 8cm gap for turning. Trim excess fabric from across the corners, then turn right side out. Iron flat; the gap will be closed when you topstitch to finish.

4 Cut out a spare red flower from the floral fabric, back with interfacing and iron or sew it in place so that it sits over the seam as shown. With the cover placed right side down, lay the journal in the middle and fold both ends of the cover in to cover the front and back flap. Use pins to mark the fold lines. Remove the journal, then create the flaps by topstitching all the way across the top and bottom of the cover, as close to the edge as you can while making sure you catch in each folded end.

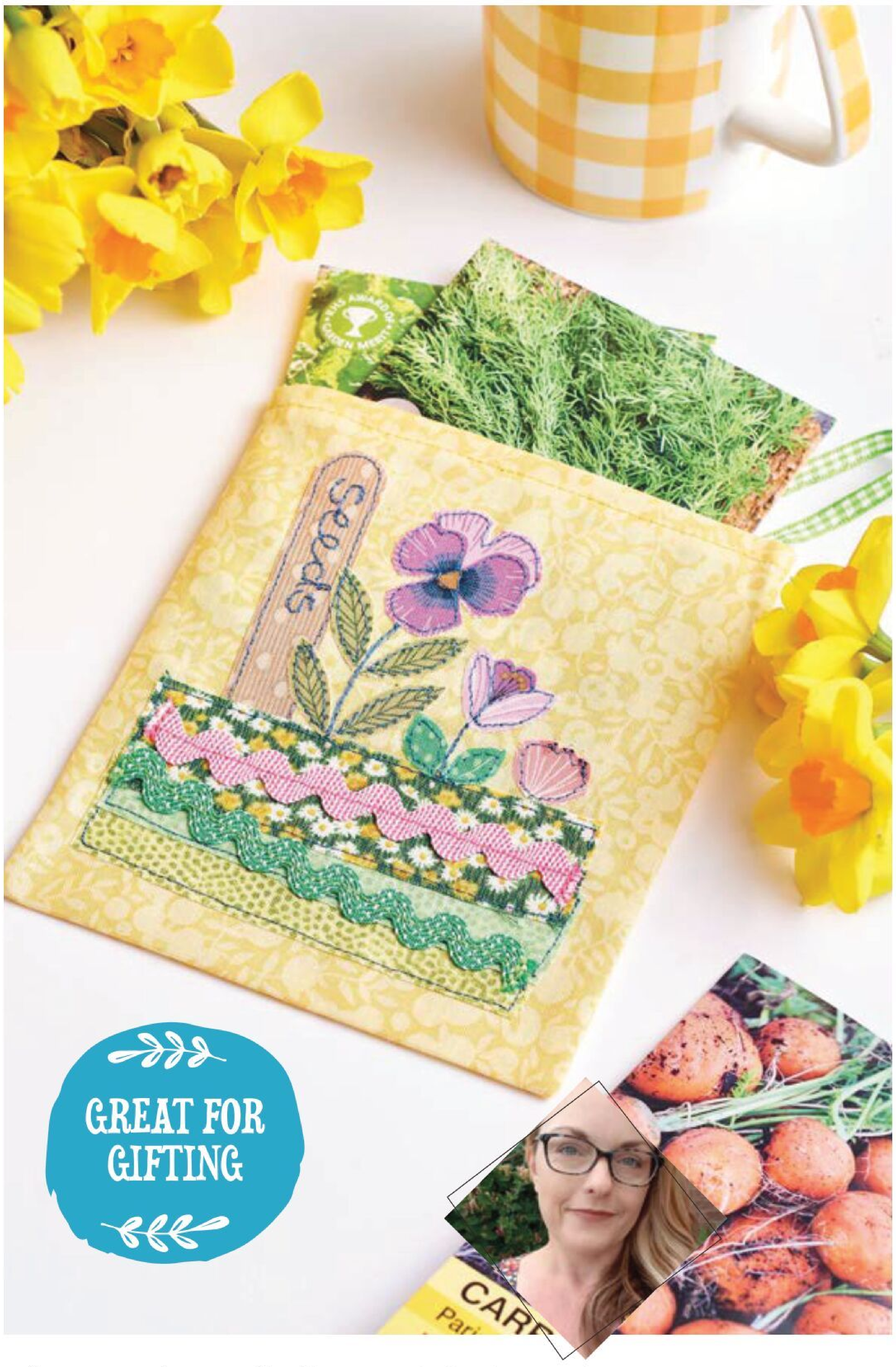
SEED POCKET

1 Using the templates, cut pale yellow fabric, 15cm x 32cm. Fold the pocket in half, wrong sides together, to aid with placement. Snip out a pansy, lilac, pink flower and some leaves from floral fabric.

2 Using the template provided, cut out a seed plant marker and three rectangles: two from two shades of green and one from a contrast floral fabric. Overlap onto the front of the pocket as shown and pin in place. Stitch in place.

3 Use acid-free glue to secure the flowers and leaves in place, then allow to dry. Sew in place with navy thread. With the tissue method, sew *seeds* in navy.

4 Stitch 2cm x 10cm lengths of pink and green ric-rac in place as shown, making sure to sew over the raw ends several times. Fold the pocket in half, right sides together, pin up the sides, then sew a 1cm seam in coordinating thread up both sides. Fold the top raw edge over twice by 5mm, and sew across to finish, catching a loop of narrow ribbon under the seam at the back for hanging.



GREAT FOR GIFTING

TOP TIP! SWAP THE WORD 'SEEDS' WITH A SPECIFIC LABEL, SUCH AS 'PANSIES' TO HELP KEEP YOUR STASH ORGANISED

> "Dot acid-free glue under the ric-rac trim to secure it before machine stitching"
>
> **CAROLYN LETTEN**
> DESIGNER

Garden
Notes

PRACTICAL AND PRETTY

DESIGNER **CHLOE HAILWOOD**

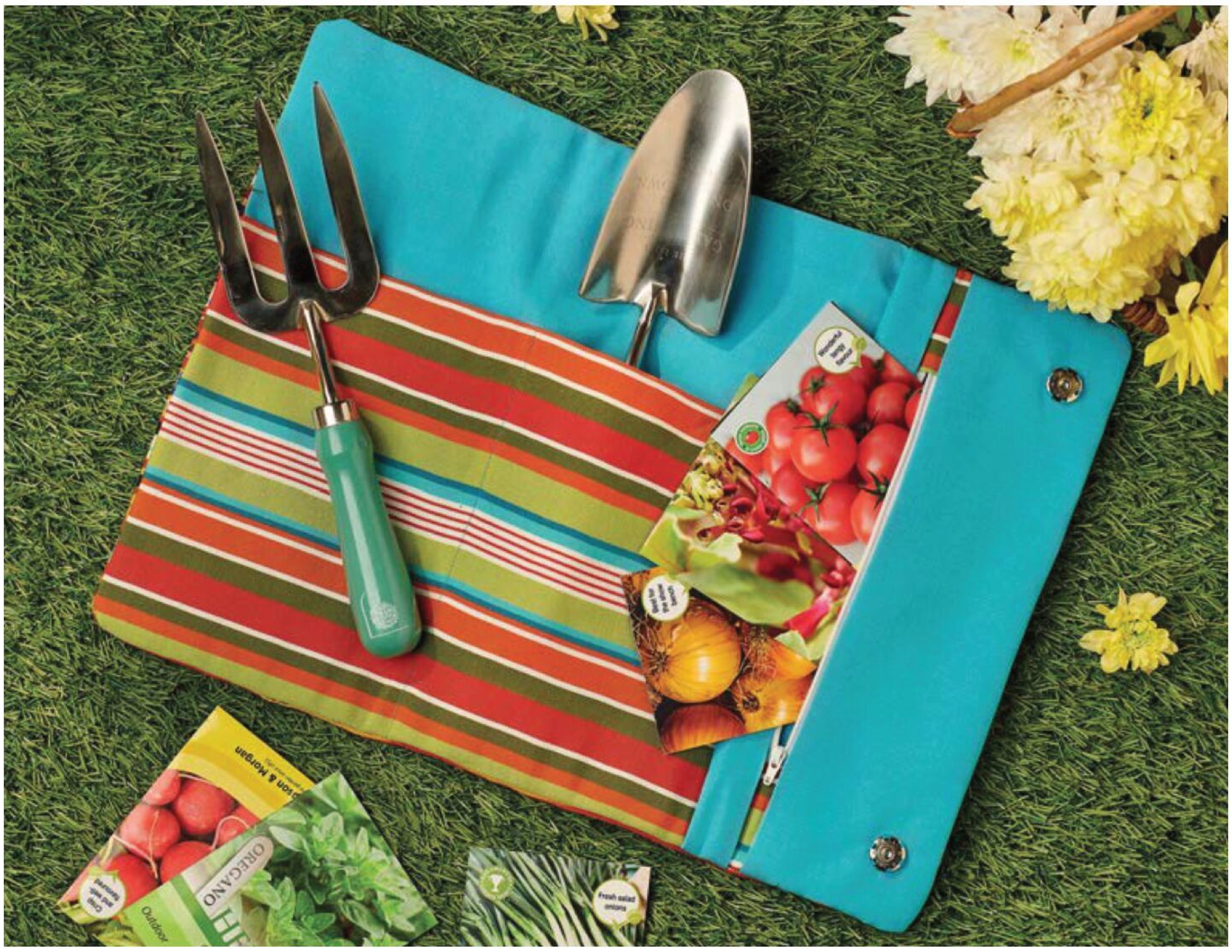
Gardeners' duo

No gardening kit is complete without this handy tool pouch and kneeler combo

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, heavy-weight woven canvas: turquoise, striped ★ Foam, 5mm x 30cm x 45cm ★ Zip, 25.5cm ★ Snap fasteners, 21mm, two ★ Cotton card, 8mm x 1.5

NB: use 1cm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated



GARDEN KNEELER

1 Cut a handle, 10cm x 28cm, and a pocket, 35cm x 50cm, from turquoise fabric, then snip the front and back, both 35cm x 53cm, from striped fabric. Fold the handle in half lengthways, right sides facing, and stitch the long raw edges together. Turn through, move the seam to the centre and press.

2 Place the front right side up. Fold the pocket fabric in half widthways, wrong sides together, and lay on one end of the front, lining up the raw edges. Tack in place. Place the handle on the opposite side of the front and line up the raw edges, making sure that the handle loop is facing inwards. Pin and tack in place. Lay the back on top, right sides together, and pin. Stitch all the way around, leaving a 30cm gap along one long edge for turning through. Repeat a second time for extra strength.

3 To make the boxy shape, pull the front and back apart at a corner and pinch the adjacent seams together to create a triangle shape with the seams at the centre, one at the front and one at the back. Measure 3cm down the front seam from the corner point and draw a horizontal line across. Sew along the line and trim the excess triangle of fabric. Repeat with the remaining three corners, then turn through, insert the foam and close the gap with whip stitch.

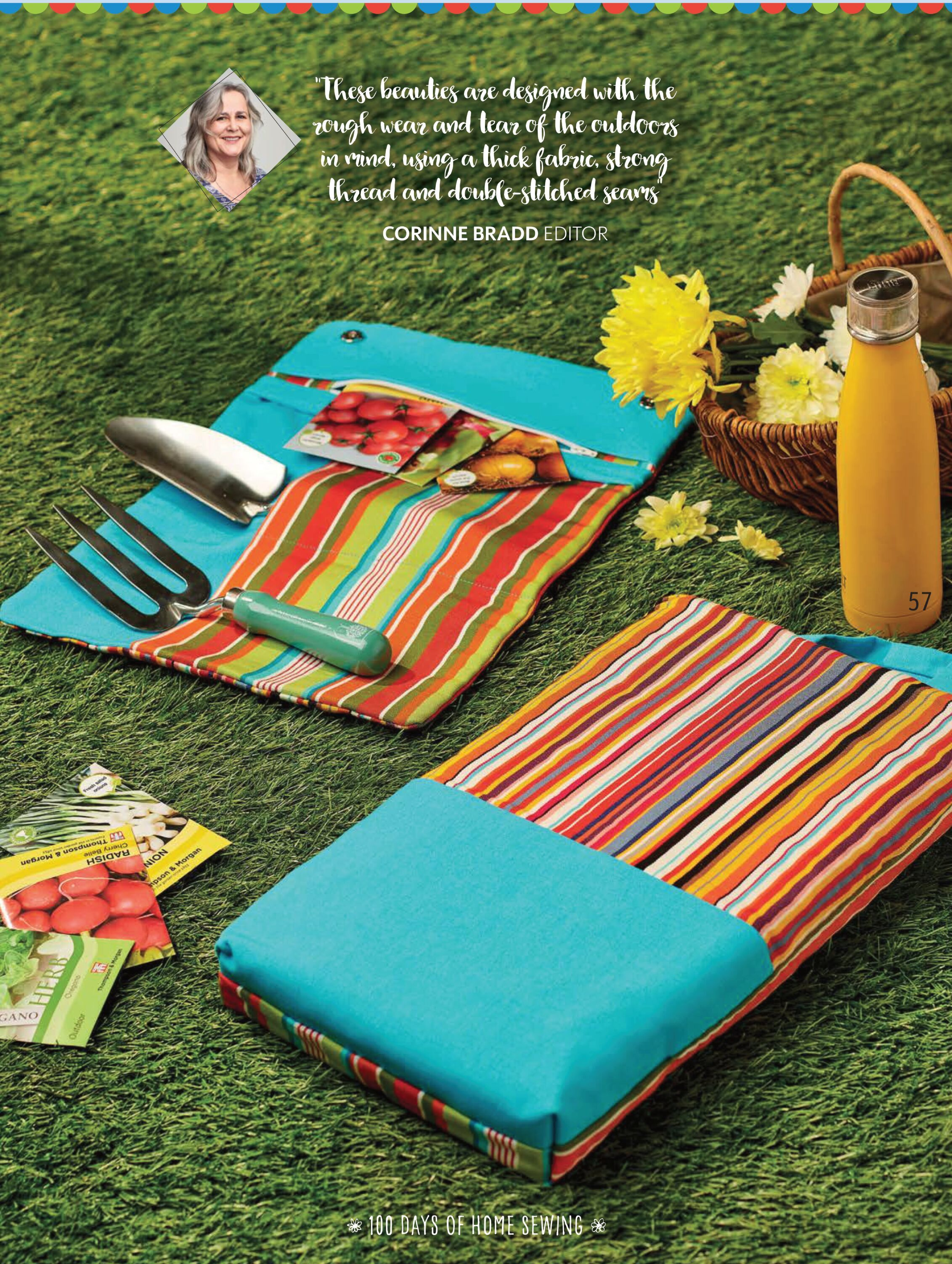
ROLL-UP TOOL POUCH

1 From striped fabric, cut a back, 38cm x 50cm, a tools pocket, 30cm x 37cm, and two zip tape covers, 4cm x 10cm. From turquoise fabric, trim a lining, 38cm x 50cm, and two sides for the zip pocket: one 12cm x 38cm and one 5cm x 38cm. Fold 5cm over, wrong sides facing, on one short side of the tools pocket. Lay right side up on top of the lining right side, matching the raw edges along the bottom left. Pin and tack in place.

2 Fold a 1cm hem along one 4cm edge of each zip tape cover and press. Position the folded edge over each end of the zip, so that it's just covering the top and bottom stop, and stitch. Lay the 5cm x 38cm zip pocket fabric right side down on one side of the zip, lining up the raw edges. Make sure that the zip is on the centre of the fabric's edge, then pin in place and sew together. Open out and finger press flat, then repeat with the other zip pocket fabric on the opposite side of the zip.

3 Lay the zip pocket vertically, right side down on top of the tools pocket, aligning the raw edges on the right-hand side. Pin along the long edge of the thin zip pocket side and flip over to the right side to check the positioning is correct. Flip back, stitch a 1.5cm seam down the pinned edge, then turn to the right side again and tack in place. Sew a line down the centre of the tools pocket to create two compartments.

4 Place the back right side down on top of the lining. Stitch a 1.5cm seam all the way around, leaving a 15-20cm gap for turning through. Trim the corners and turn, closing the gap with whip stitch. Gatefold the sides into the centre, to create a pouch, then sew two snap fasteners on the back and zip pockets, in corresponding positions.


RADISH
Cherry Belle
Thompson & Morgan
ONION
HERB
Oregano
Outdoor

"These beauties are designed with the rough wear and tear of the outdoors in mind, using a thick fabric, strong thread and double-stitched seams"

CORINNE BRADD EDITOR

DESIGNER **LUCINDA GANDERTON & CORINNE BRADD**

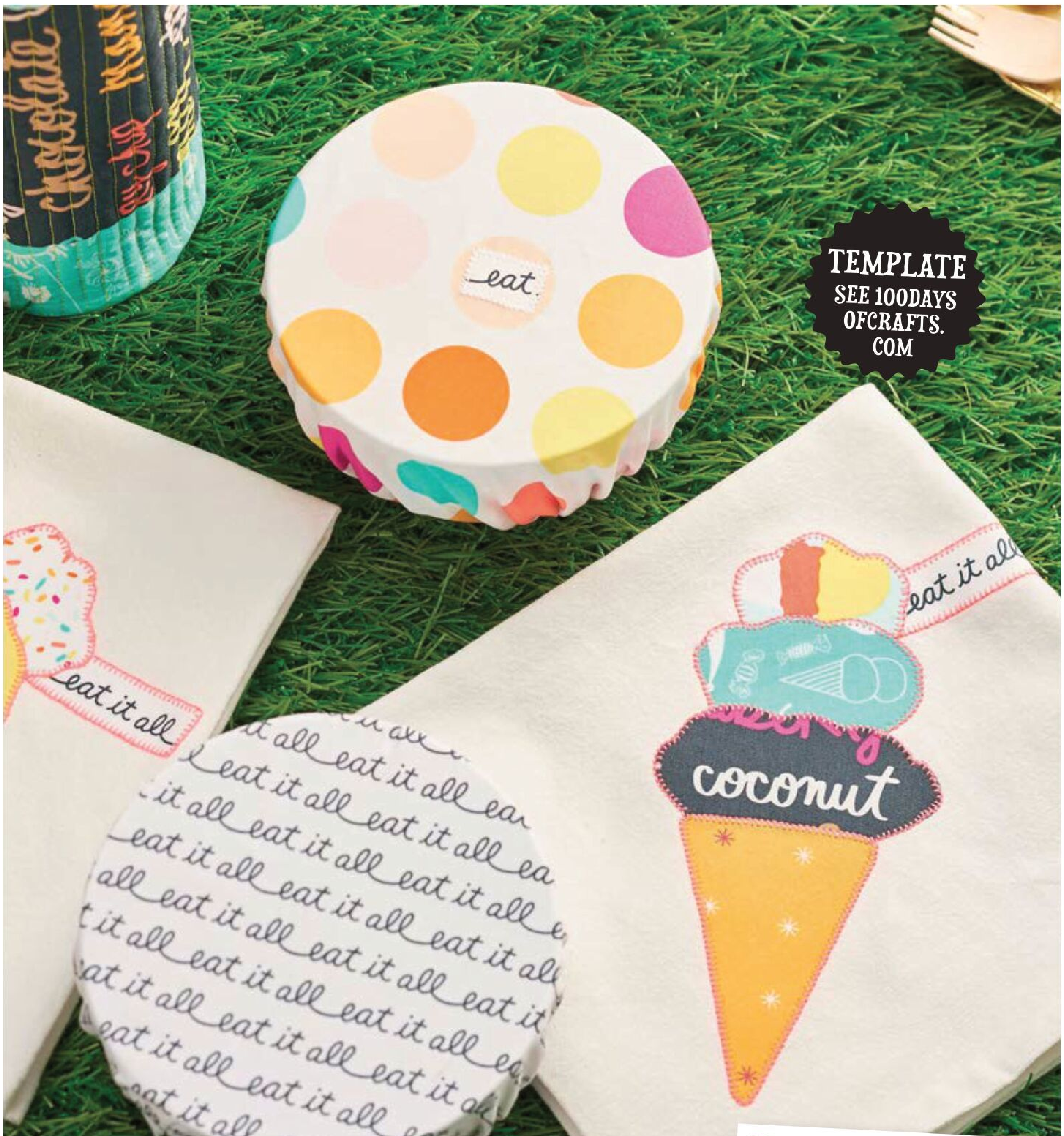
Picnic essentials

Complete with bottle holder, bowl covers, napkins and cushions, this dining set is perfect for any garden party

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: prints, five; plain, white ★ Fusible webbing ★ Bias binding ★ Odicoat (optional) ★ Elastic,1.5mm ★ Round buttons ★ Concealed zip ★ Wooden dowel ★ Wooden knobs, 30mm ★ Emulsion paint, lime green ★ Epoxy resin glue ★ Medium-weight quilt wadding ★ Fibre filling ★ Coloured felt ★ Safety eyes, two ★ Safety nose

NB: use 5mm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

APPLIQUÉ NAPKINS

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download the ice cream template. Using a 50cm cotton square, press under a 1cm double hem around each edge. Mitre the corners and stitch down the inner fold. Trace the cone, three ice cream scoops, and the label onto the paper side of fusible webbing with a pencil.

2 Cut out roughly and iron onto five different fabrics. Trim around the outline and assemble the ice cream in one corner of the napkin, overlapping from top to bottom. Slip the label under the top scoop and press in place.

3 Outline each shape in contrasting thread, using a machine zig-zag stitch or buttonhole stitch.

BOWL COVERS

1 Measure the diameter of your chosen bowl and add 10cm. Cut two circles to this new width and place right sides together. Sew around the circumference with a 5mm seam allowance, leaving a 3cm gap. Turn through the hole and press. Sew a continuous line of topstitching 1cm in from the edge to make a channel.

2 If you want to make the cover waterproof, paint an even layer of Odicoat over the right side of the fabric within the topstitching. Leave it to dry for an hour, then iron right side up under a piece of greaseproof paper to create a glossy finish.

3 Tie a length of elastic to a small safety pin and thread the elastic round the channel. Place the cover over the bowl and pull the elastic to make a snug fit over the sides before tying a secure knot. Trim away the excess elastic and hide the cut ends inside the channel. Fold in the raw edges and slip-stitch closed.

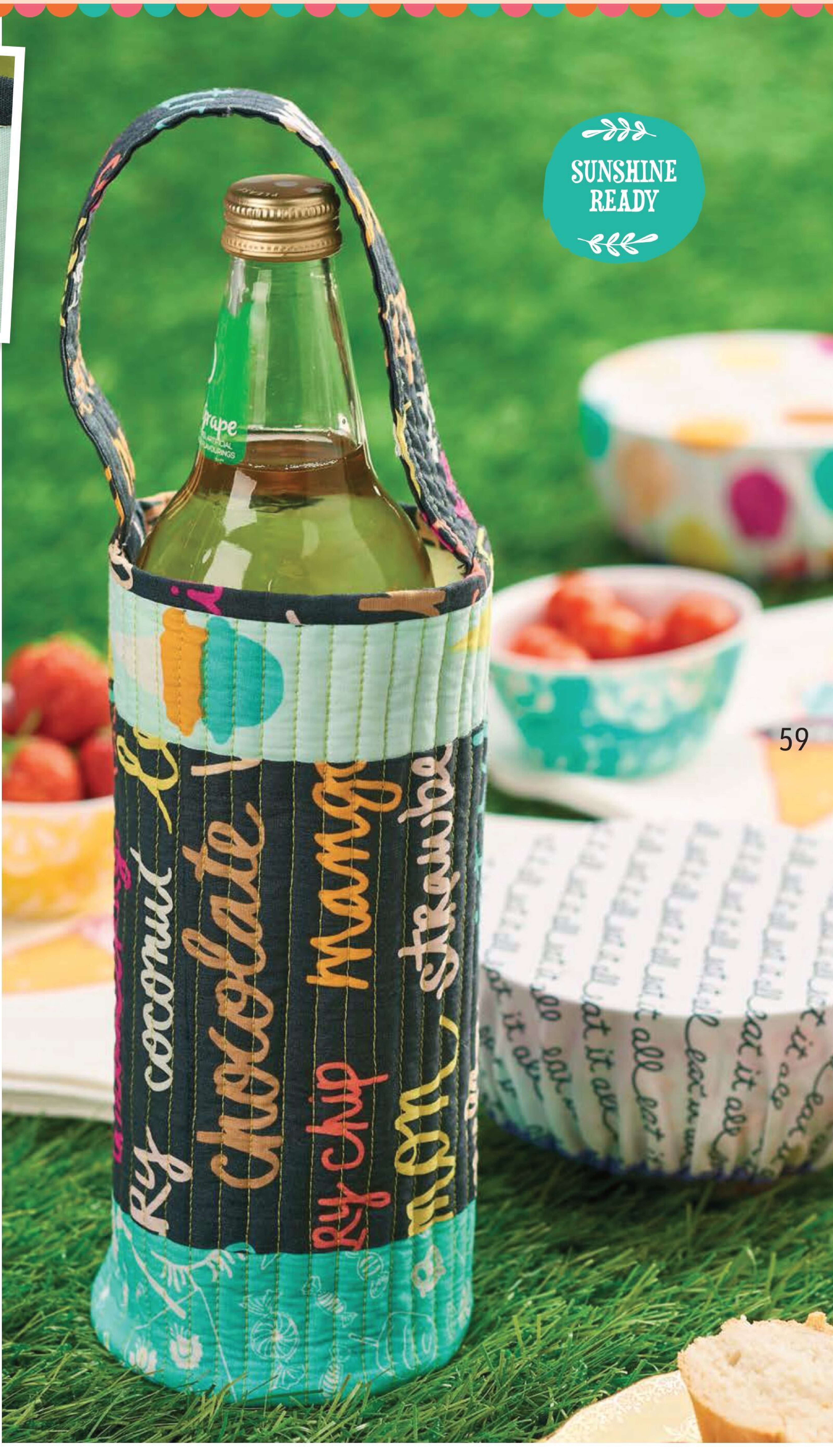
BOTTLE HOLDER

1 From the text print, cut a piece 15cm x 35cm for the outside, 2cm x 35cm for the piping, and 8cm x 30cm for the handle. From a pale turquoise print, cut a piece 7cm x 35cm for the outside and a lining section 25cm x 35cm. Using a darker turquoise, cut a 7cm x 35cm rectangle for the outside, and two 13cm squares for the base. Take the wadding and trim, 25cm x 35cm for the sides, 13cm square for the base, and 3cm x 30cm for the handle.

2 Join the strips to make the main holder. Press the seams open. Place the lining face down, lay the wadding over it, and the completed outside on top. Pin the three layers together, then quilt with vertical lines 8mm apart in a contrasting colour. Trim to 22cm x 31cm. Quilt the base in the same way and cut out a 11.5cm circle.

3 With right sides facing, join the side edges using a 1cm seam allowance. Bind the raw edges, then bind the top edge with the text print fabric. Pin the bottom to the lower edge, with right sides together, clipping into the seam allowance of the base if necessary so that it fits around the circle. Join with a 1cm seam.

4 Press under a 1cm seam along one long edge of the handle, then wrap the fabric around the wadding strip with the neatened edge at the centre base. Pin the layers together and quilt. Trim the ends and sew to the inside top edge to finish.



HAMMOCK HEADREST

1 First construct the wooden tab rod; cut the dowel to the same length as the hammock struts. Glue wooden knobs to the ends of the dowel, then paint with emulsion paint and leave to dry.

2 Cut out the fabric pieces: 65cm x 72cm rectangle from red gingham, then a 14cm x 72cm rectangle and ten 13cm x 20cm strips from red spot.

3 Fold the strips in half lengthways with the right sides of the fabric facing, then stitch the two raw edges together with a 1cm seam allowance. To save time, carry on stitching all the tabs in one continuous line, cutting the chain between the tabs when all ten have been stitched. Turn the strips to the right side and press them flat.

4 Fold the tabs in half to make a loop. Evenly distribute them along one of the 72cm edges of the gingham rectangle (approximately 1.5cm between each tab), one to sit 1.5cm away from each corner and the remainder equally between these outer two. Pin and then stitch each tab in place.

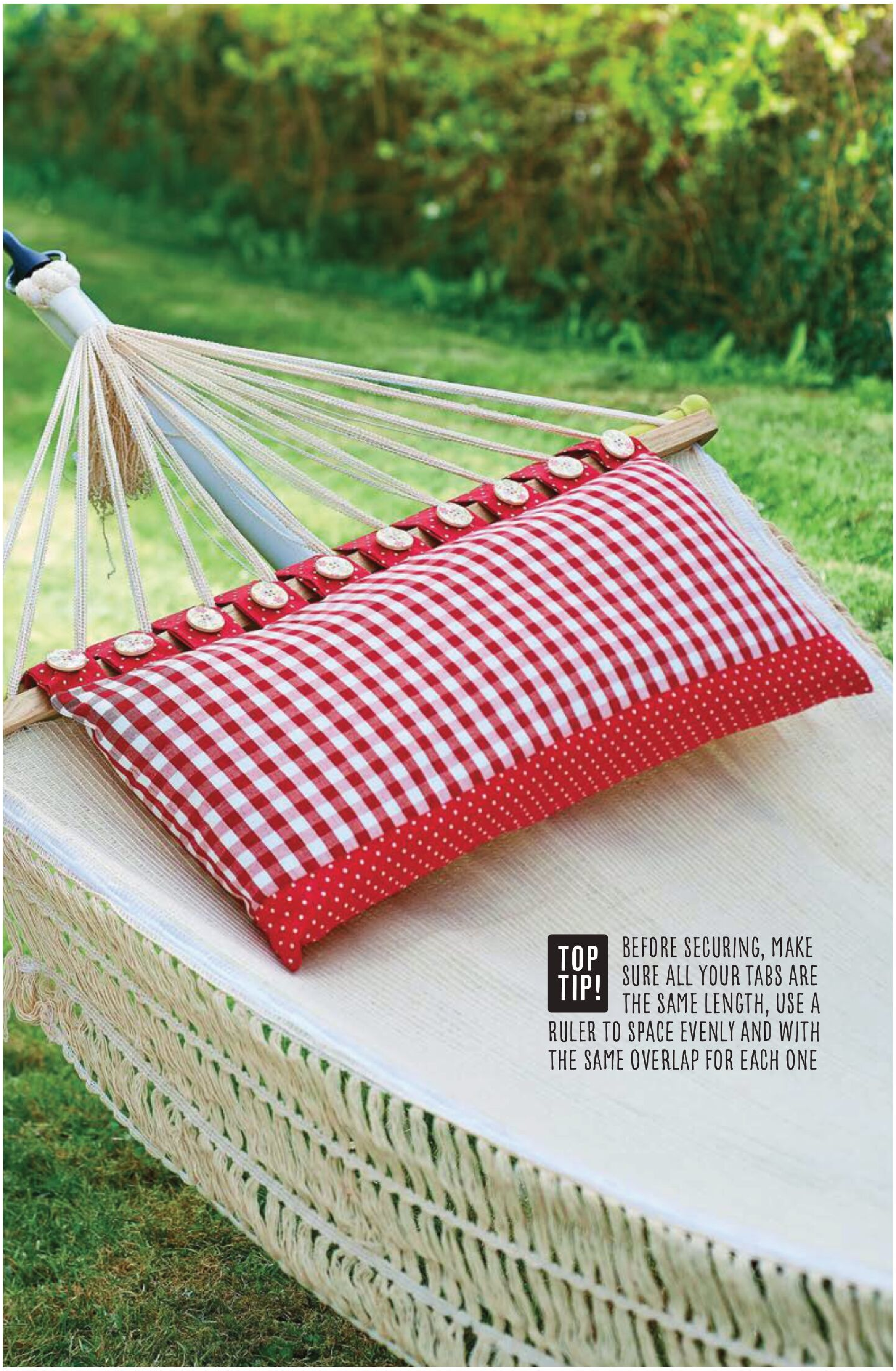
5 Fold and press in 1cm along each of the 72cm sides of the spotty strip. Position this in the centre of the gingham rectangle, matching the two outer raw edges to the edges of the gingham. Pin and edge stitch in place. Neaten the raw edges right around the stitched piece by either overlocking or using the overlock stitch on your sewing machine.

6 Fold the rectangle in half, matching the two 72cm edges together. Pin in place and stitch across the two ends, leaving a gap along the tabbed edge 3cm shorter than the length of your zip.

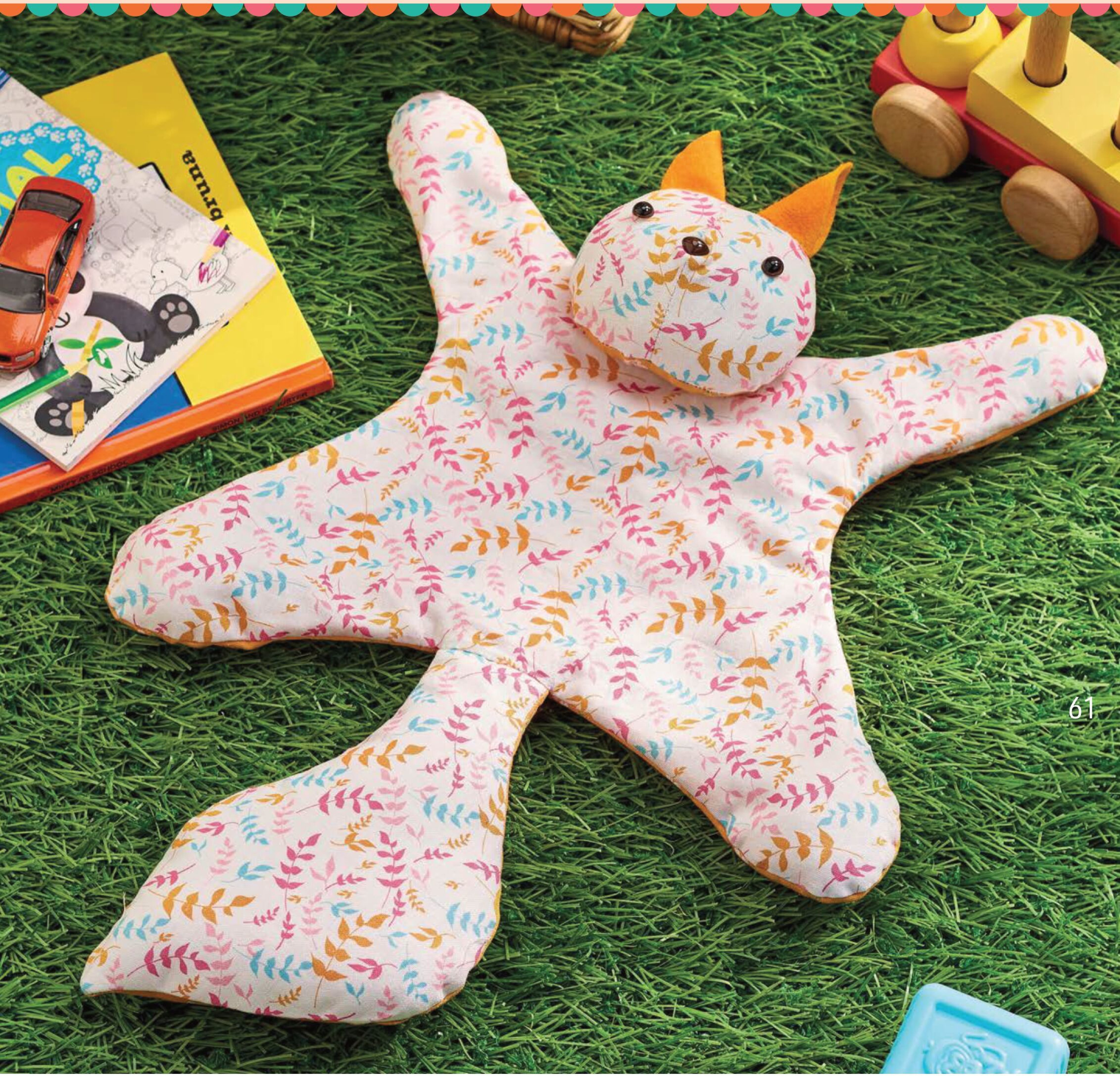
7 Stitch the concealed zip into the opening using a zipper foot. Fold and press the 1.5cm seam allowance along the two sides of the opening. Open out the seam allowance, and with the right side of the fabric facing, place the opened zip face down, matching the teeth to the crease line in the seam allowance. Pin in place; you will need to uncurl the teeth with your finger tips as you stitch.

8 It is impossible to sew to the end of a concealed zip so leave 3cm of the zip base unstitched. Back stitch, then stitch the other side of the zip in place. Carefully thread the zip pull through to the right side and pull up to close.

9 Stitch a button to the base of each tab, stitching through just one layer. Stuff the cushion cover with the wadding. Lay the completed cushion on the top of the hammock, then push a tab between each of the ties and thread the prepared rod through each tab (underneath the ties), securing the cushion to the hammock.



TOP TIP! BEFORE SECURING, MAKE SURE ALL YOUR TABS ARE THE SAME LENGTH, USE A RULER TO SPACE EVENLY AND WITH THE SAME OVERLAP FOR EACH ONE



FLYING SQUIRREL MAT

1 Download the templates from 100daysofcrafts.com and cut out. Trace two body pieces onto the reverse of cotton print fabric and place right sides together onto a piece of quilt wadding. Sew around the edges leaving a gap between the legs.

2 Trim away excess wadding, clip the curves and turn out through the gap. Fold in the raw edges and tack to hold back, still leaving the hole. Insert balls of fibre filling into the ends of each limb, using the end of a pencil to get into the ends.

3 Place two fabrics right sides together and cut out the two tail pieces. Sew around the edges leaving the straight end open. Turn out and stuff with fibre filling. Push the open end of the tail into the tacked gap at the bottom of the body and slip-stitch in place securely. Remove all the tacking stitches.

4 Cut two head and face pieces from contrasting fabric. Place the faces right sides together and join at the front. Sew the two head pieces together along the straight edge, leaving a 3cm gap in the centre. Lay the opened-out head and face right sides together, and stitch around the entire edge. Turn out through the gap in the head seam.

5 Fit the safety eyes and nose to the front of the face. Stuff the head firmly with fibre filling, then fold in the raw edges of the gap and slip-stitch closed. Oversew the top of the body to the back of the head. Cut two ears from felt, pinch the bottom corners to the middle to shape and oversew to the top of the head.

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3 CREATE

Gather your essential craft supplies including your sewing machine, fabric, needles and thread, then you're ready to go!

BECOME A BETTER STITCHER

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>
> **CORINNE BRADD** EDITOR

5 LAST-MINUTE Stashbusters

tassel cushions

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INSIDE

TECHNIQUE CHECKLIST

- ☑ How to sew a broken herringbone patchwork
- ☑ Stitch a simple Japanese bag
- ☑ Master speedy quilt-as-you-go patchwork
- ☑ Make a dog bandana
- ☑ Create nifty felt triangle pots
- ☑ Learn how to insert a zip
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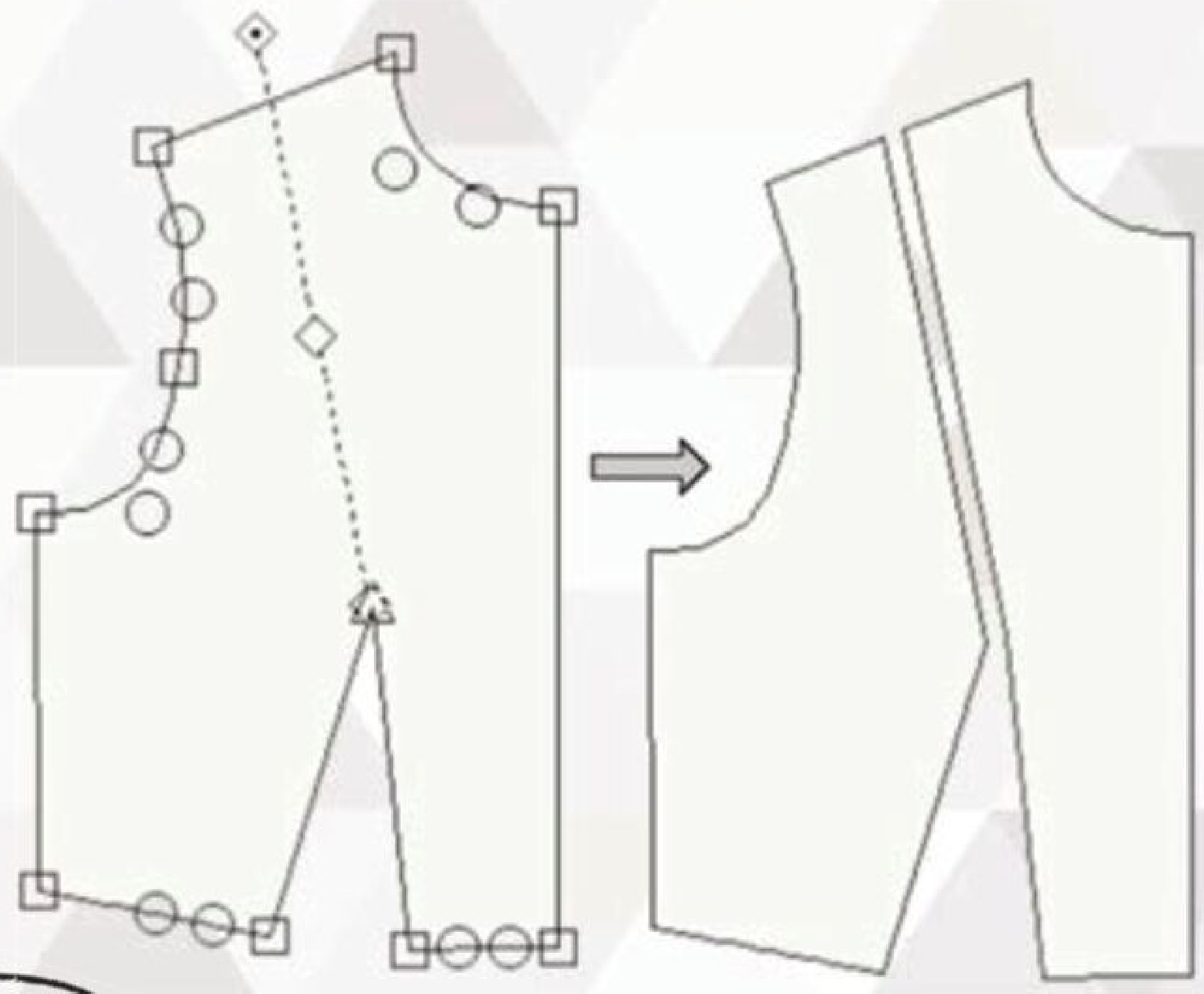

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DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Leaf stitch set

CHART
SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

Brush up your embroidery to create this pretty tea cosy and coaster combo

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, linen
★ Embroidery thread, dark green, light green, beige, pale yellow, pink
★ Embroidery canvas, eight count ★ Curtain interlining ★ Bias binding, pink ★ Piping cord
★ Piping or zipper foot
★ Embroidery needle, size 20, blunt end

COASTER

1 Download and print the chart found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut a 14cm square of embroidery canvas, then thread the needle with six strands of dark green embroidery thread. Count in seven holes from the left-hand side and five holes up from the left-hand base corner; this is the starting point for the first stitch. Pass the needle up from the back of the canvas, leaving a 3cm tail of thread.

2 Hold onto the tail whilst passing the needle through to the back to form half of the leaf shape. Reverse the sequence to complete the leaf. Repeat four more times. For the next row, thread the needle with light green thread. Repeat the process.

3 The first leaf will be the right-hand side of the motif. Stitch four whole leaves followed by the left-hand side of a leaf to complete the row, creating a straight edge to the sides of the embroidery. Change to beige thread and sew five whole leaves. The pattern slots into each other as the motif is repeated up the five rows of leaves.

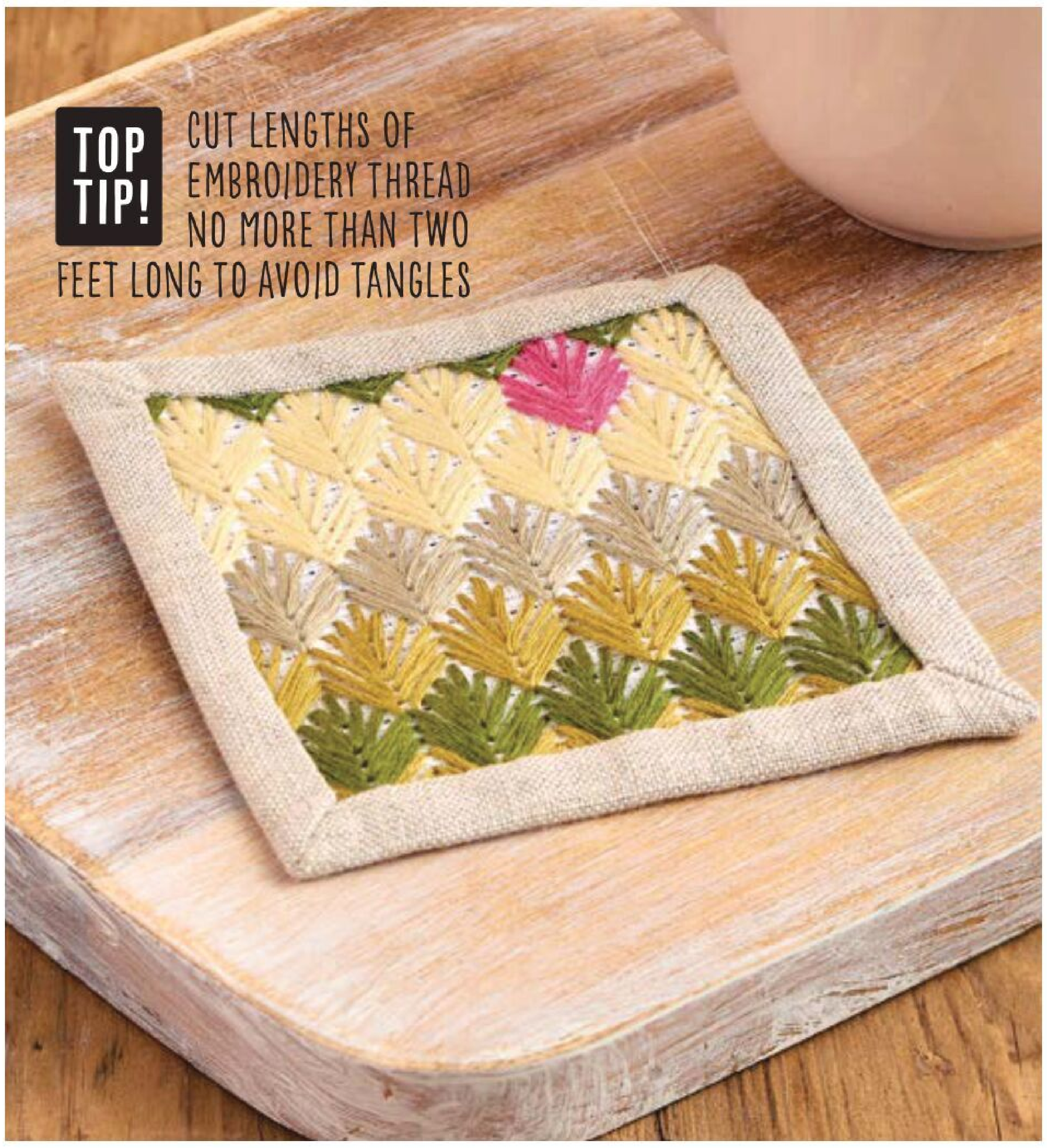
4 Complete one row of beige leaves, then change to pale yellow thread and stitch a row with half leaves at either end. For the fifth row, sew three whole leaves in yellow, change to pink thread and stitch one leaf. Complete the row with one yellow leaf. Using the remaining chart, at the top and base of the piece fill in the gaps with a seven-point sequence, again reversing the sequence to complete the arrowhead shape. Trim the edges of the canvas to create a 1cm border around all four sides.

5 Cut a 15cm x 15.5cm rectangle of linen fabric, then fold and press in 1cm on all four edges. Turn the piece over, pinch each corner together and sew a mitre, trimming away the bulk. After completing all four corner mitres, turn the coaster over and press flat, forming a frame in which the embroidery can be positioned. Hand-stitch the edges of the frame to the edges of the embroidery.

TEA COSY

1 Embroider three triangular panels. To increase the size, add more leaves to the beginning base row, keeping to an odd number. A 16cm x 18cm piece of canvas is needed for every triangle; this will need to be increased for a larger tea cosy.

2 Start in the left-hand base corner of the canvas. Use one of the shorter edges as the base of the piece. Sew seven holes in from the side edge and four holes up from the base to create seven dark green leaves across the base. Stitch six light green leaves slotted into the darker green leaves, followed by five beige leaves, then another four beige leaves above.



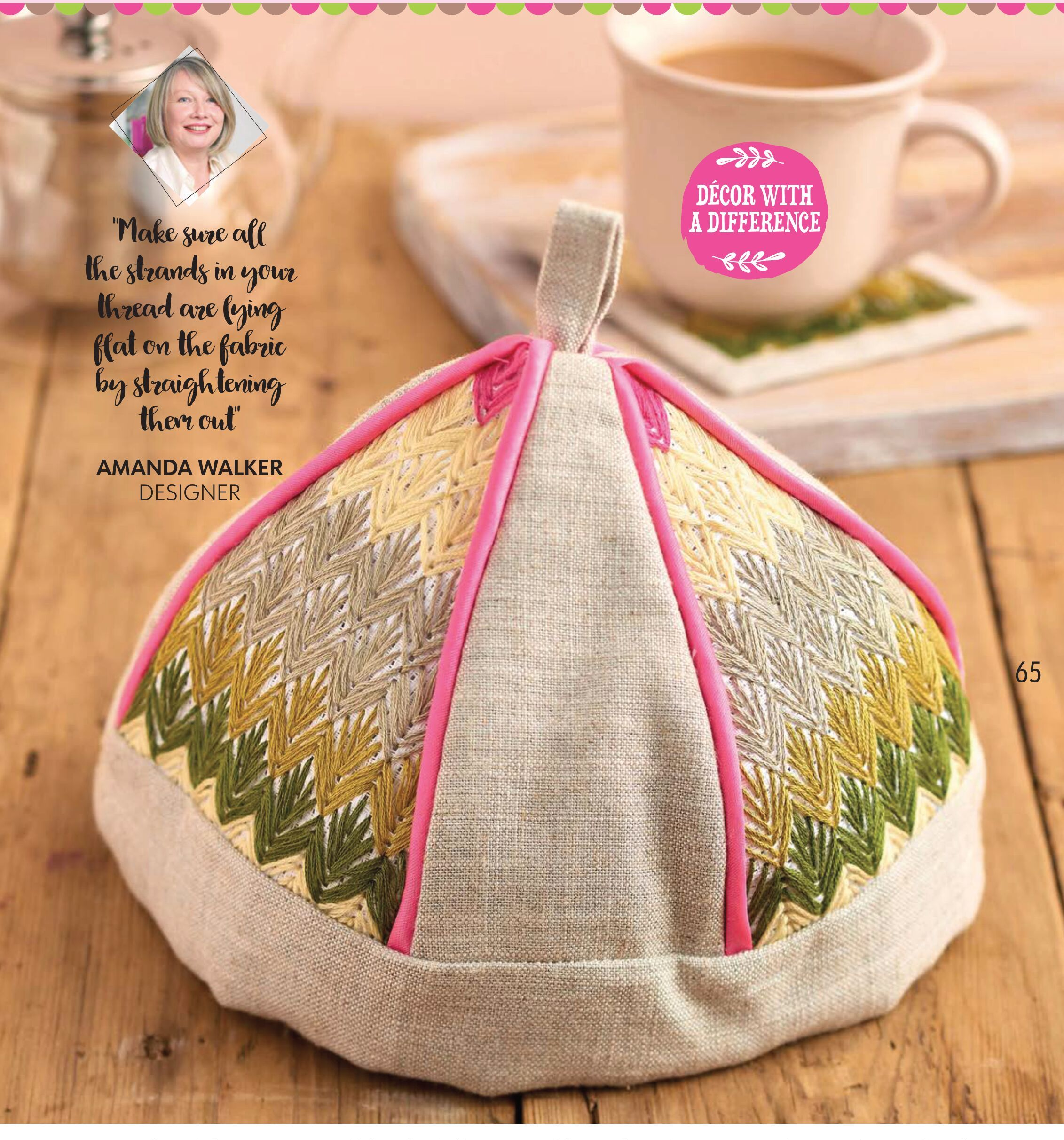
TOP TIP! CUT LENGTHS OF EMBROIDERY THREAD NO MORE THAN TWO FEET LONG TO AVOID TANGLES

3 Change to pale yellow thread and sew a row of three leaves, then two more above and one pink leaf at the top of the triangle. Fill in the base leaves with the seven-point sequence to create a straight line at the base of the triangle. Trim away the excess canvas, leaving a 1cm border around the edge of the embroidery. Make a chart by drawing around the edges of this piece.

4 Add extra length at the base of the chart, extending the straight side edges of the first row of leaves down by an extra 3cm for the lining. Make a copy of the chart for the linen panels that are sewn in between the embroidered panels, cutting it through the centre from the base to the point at the top of the triangle.

5 Cross the centre edges over one another at the base until it measures half the width of the original, keeping the point intact. Straighten the base line, then correct the angle of the 3cm extension so that they are at a 90° angle from the base line. This will become the lining chart. Remove the 3cm extension to create the chart for the linen panels. Snip three panels in linen and three panels with the extension in curtain interlining, then another three using the larger chart.

6 Press the folds out from the sides of the bias binding. Attach a piping or zip foot to the machine and use the bias strip to cover the



"Make sure all the strands in your thread are lying flat on the fabric by straightening them out"

AMANDA WALKER
DESIGNER

piping cord. Stitch the piping cord to both the long edges of the embroidered triangles, then sew the linen panels in between to complete the cosy shape. Cut a small strip of linen, turn in the edges, fold the strip in half again and edge-stitch together.

7 Fold this tab in half to make a loop and push it into the tip of the tea cosy. You may need to snip a few stitches to enable the loop ends to pass through the layers. Handstitch to secure. Snip a strip of linen measuring the circumference of the cosy base plus 2cm extra for the seam allowance, and 8cm wide. Sew the two shorter ends together and stitch the ring to the base of the tea cosy, with a 1cm seam allowance.

8 Cut panels of curtain interlining together, alternating large and small panels as for the outer cosy. Place the lining inside the cosy and fold the linen strip at the base, over the base of the lining and up inside. Fold in 1cm around the edge of the linen strip and handstitch in place onto the lining.

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Felt bookmarks

If you enjoy cosying up with a good read, this embroidered project is just the make for you

KIT LIST

★ Felt scraps ★ Embroidery thread, various colours
★ Embroidery needle
★ Scissors

1 Cut a heart shape from felt, ensuring that the bottom point is a right angle. Use two strands of embroidery thread to sew a floral design using a small backstitch.

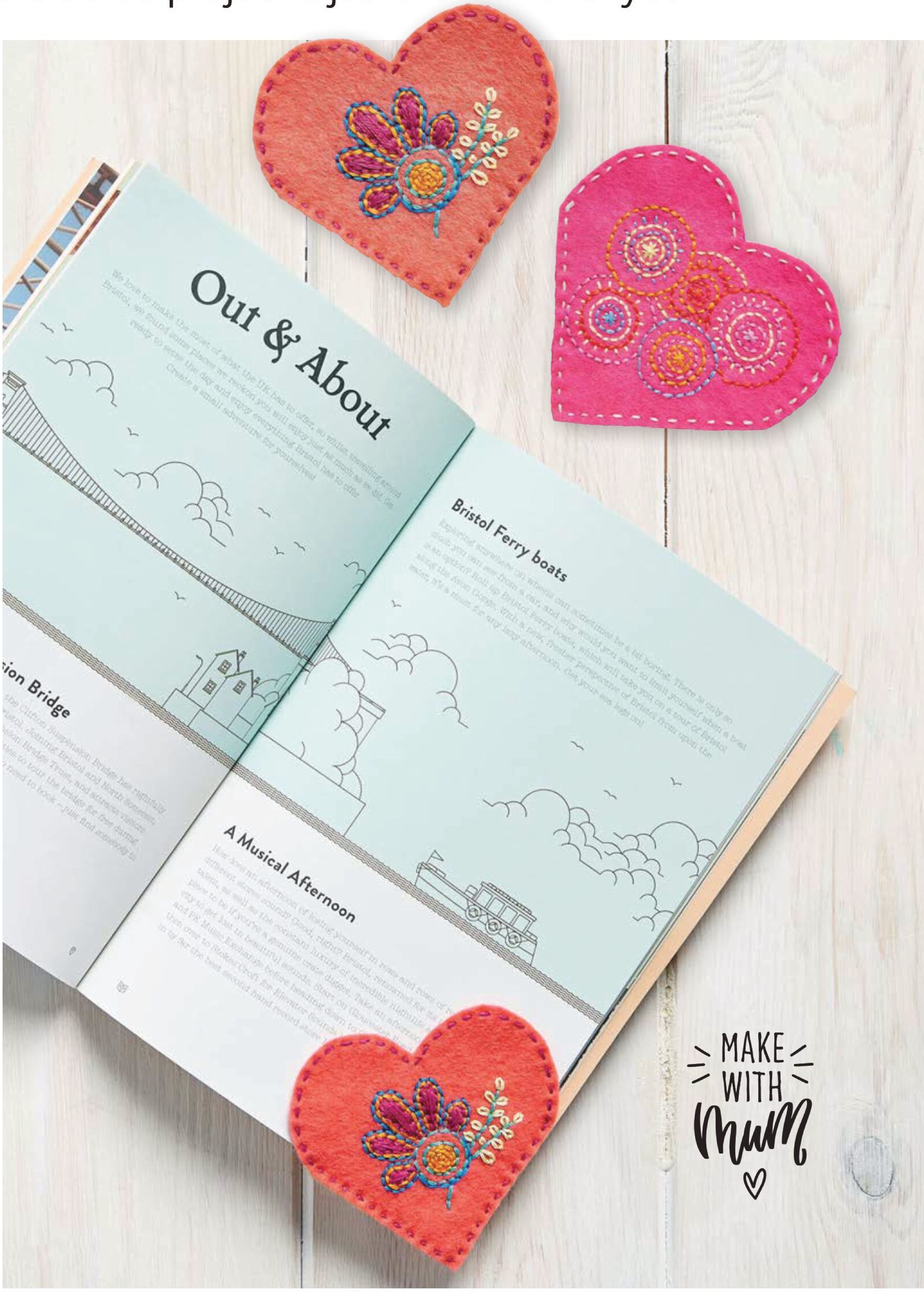
2 Begin the design with a simple circle and build on it to create petals and leaf stems. Keep the design within 1cm of the edges of the heart.

3 Pin the heart to another piece of felt and sew the two pieces together with small running stitch along the two straight edges at the bottom of the heart.

4 Trim the second piece of felt to the outline of the heart. Sew decorative running stitch around the top curves of both pieces of felt separately.

WHY NOT TRY...

Instead of a floral design, embroider names or initials on your fabric to make unique gifts for family and friends



MAKE WITH mum

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
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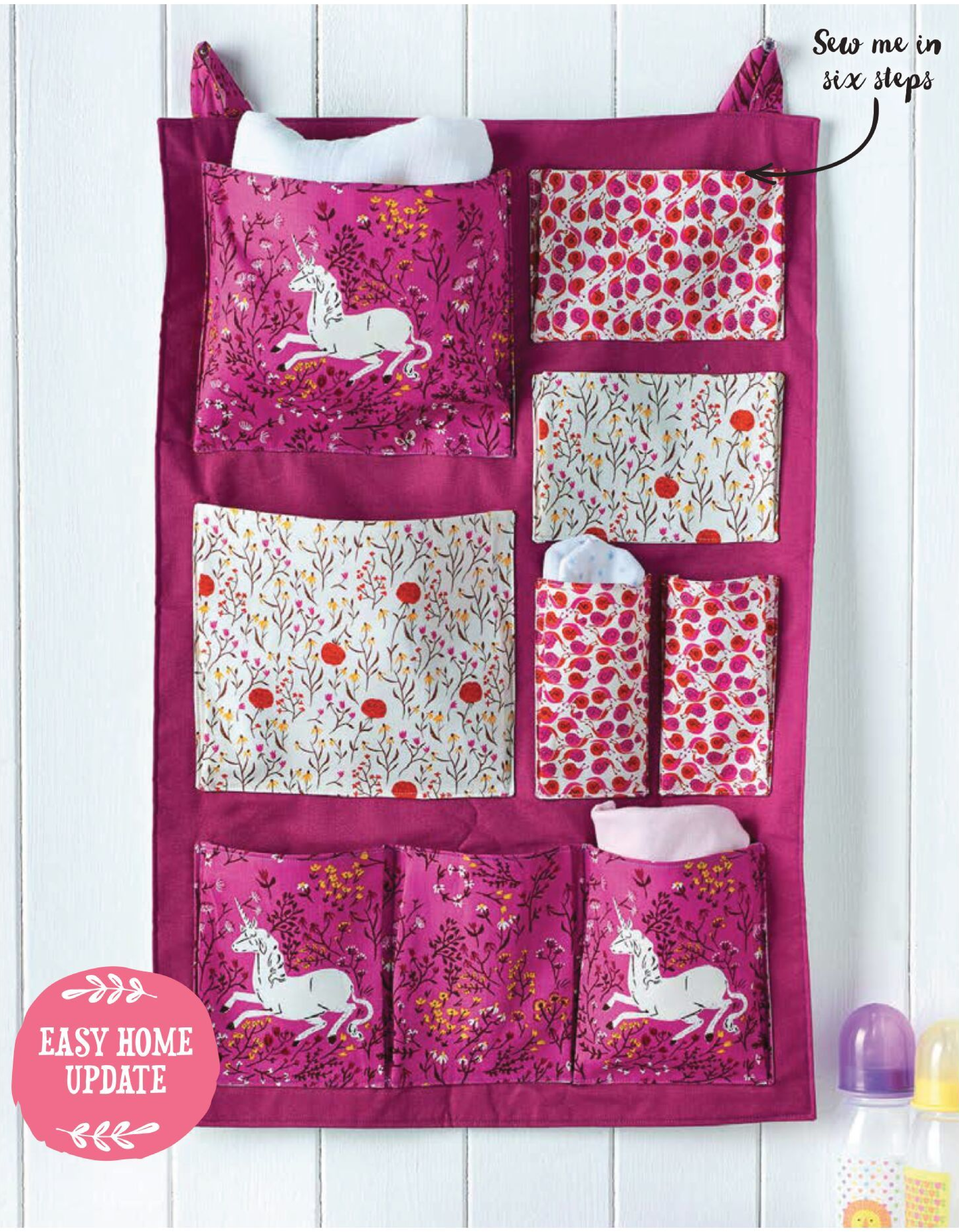
DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Pocket organiser

Keep any space tidy with this wall hanging that can hold all your essentials and supplies close to hand

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: plain white cotton, 1m; fat quarters, assorted, unicorn print; plum cotton, 100cm x 112cm ★ Mid-weight iron-on interfacing, 40cm x 60cm ★ Knitting needle


Sew me in six steps

EASY HOME UPDATE

1 Download and print the template found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Fuse interfacing, 40cm x 60cm, to the reverse of a plum cotton panel, 42cm x 62cm, leaving a 1cm seam allowance. Fold over the excess fabric all the way round and tack.

2 Refer to the layout and cut rectangles of different fabric in the stated sizes. Cut corresponding sizes from plain white fabric and pair up, right sides together. Sew around all sides with a 5mm seam allowance and a 6cm gap along the bottom edge of each. Clip the corners and turn each pocket out through the gap. Use a knitting needle to push the corners out, turn in the raw edge along the bottom, tack closed and press.

3 Make a 1cm wide pleat along the bottom edge of each pocket and pin. For the larger pocket, make 1cm pleats at each end and double pleats at ⅓ and ⅔ of the way across. Pin pockets to the backing fabric, starting with the bottom edge and pinning the sides at right angles. The top edge of each pocket remains unpinned and should naturally fall outwards.

4 Using a coordinating thread, topstitch the pockets in place, 2mm from the edges and securing the pleats along the bottom as you do so. Stitch dividing lines down the larger pocket in line with the double pleats.

5 Fold two fabric panels, 6cm x 12cm, in half right sides together, and sew down the long side. Turn right side out to make a tube. Press and fold the tube in half to make loops, then tack to the top corners of the organiser.

6 Take white fabric, 42cm x 62cm, and press in 1cm along each edge. Place the organiser on top of the white fabric, wrong sides together. Pin the folded edges together, covering the ends of the loops as you do so. Topstitch all the way around the organiser, 2mm from the edges.

RESCUE YOUR REMNANTS

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

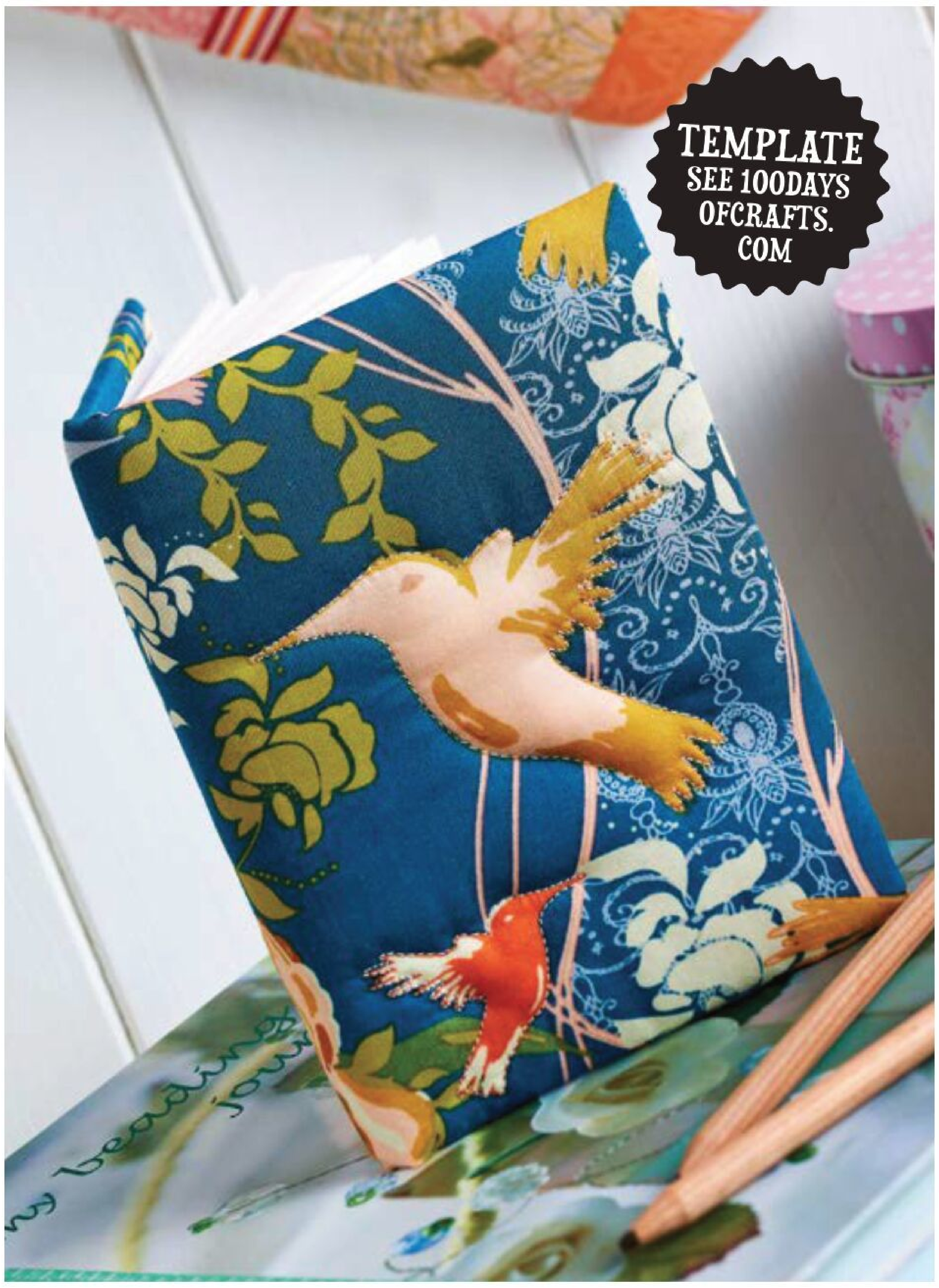
Desk set

Add a touch of elegance to your home office with this heart-shaped pinboard and book cover

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: assorted, 10cm square, 32; lining, 50cm square; patterned ★ Ribbon, grosgrain, striped, 1.5cm wide, 200cm ★ Paper, 50cm square ★ Foam board, 50cm x 100cm ★ Buttons, cover, 2.3cm, three ★ Wadding, medium weight, 100cm x 50cm ★ Embroidery thread ★ Notebook, plain hardback ★ Knife, craft ★ Tape, double-sided

Pinboard: 42cm x 48cm; notebook: 10.5cm x 14.8cm



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

NOTEBOOK COVER

1 Open a notebook and pull the pages away from the spine as far as you can. Use a craft knife to cut through the end papers close to the spine to release the book from its cover. Lay the book to one side and flatten the cover.

2 Cut a piece of wadding the same size as the cover. Lay it onto the back of a suitable piece of fabric so that an attractive image will be on the left-hand side and there is at least 2cm of fabric spare around all edges. Pin the wadding to the fabric. Turn over and use sewing thread to backstitch around the outline of your chosen motif. Remove the pins and fix the quilted fabric to the spine of the book cover with double-sided tape.

3 Fold in the raw edges of the fabric on all sides, mitring the corners and securing with double-sided tape. Attach more tape to the inside of the book. Create new endpapers from the first and last pages of the book by sticking them to the inside covers, covering the raw edges of fabric and holding the book in place.

PATCHWORK PINBOARD

1 Fold a 50cm square sheet of paper in half and cut a large heart shape from it. Use this as a template to cut two hearts from foam board and fix these together with double-sided tape to increase the thickness. Draw around the template onto lining fabric and cut out leaving a 1.5cm seam allowance. Fold the seam allowance in and tack in place. Press to set the curved edges.

2 Draw a vertical line down the centre of the template and from this draw a series of diagonal lines at 45° from the vertical, 8cm apart in both directions to make a grid pattern. Arrange your fabric squares over the grid until you are happy with the placement of the different designs. Don't forget that even small sections of squares on the grid will need cloth covering them.

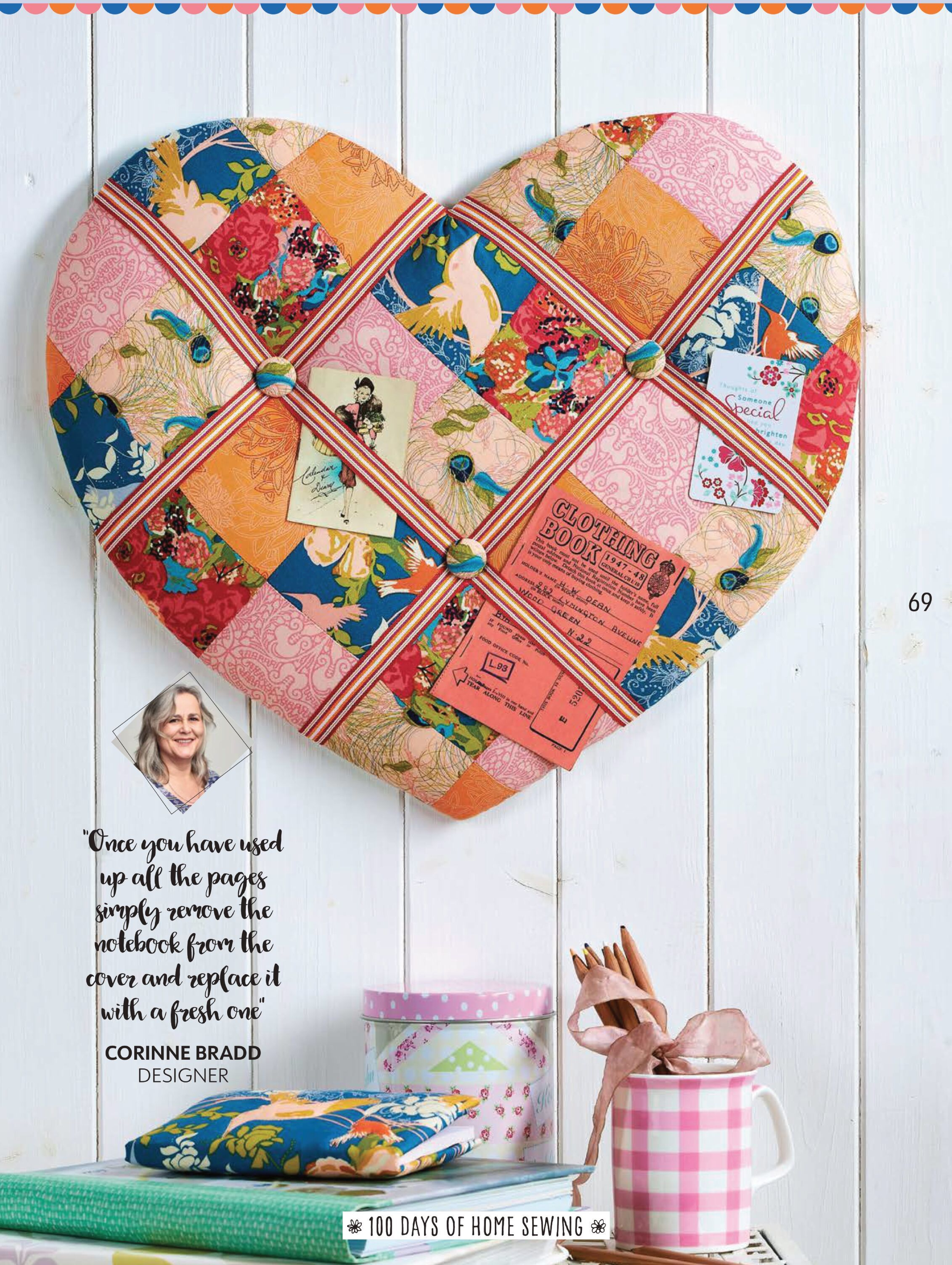
3 Begin stitching rows of squares together into strips using a 1cm seam allowance. Press the strips and keep them in the correct order on the grid before stitching them together to make a fabric panel. Press again and check the fabric will cover the whole heart with 3cm overlap. Use the template to cut two hearts from wadding and roughly tack together. Fix the wadding to the foam board with a little double-sided tape, lay the material over it and pin in place ensuring the centre of the fabric and the heart line up.

4 Use double-sided tape to temporarily attach the edges of the fabric tightly over the wadding and onto the back of the foam board. Cut and pin lengths of ribbon over the front of the heart, covering some seams and fix the ends to the back as before.

5 Cover three buttons with matching fabric. Stitch these in place where the ribbons cross using six strands of embroidery thread and a sharp needle that is long enough to pass through the fabric, wadding and foam board. Keep the thread taut so the buttons are pulled into the wadding and create a dip.

6 Take the pressed heart of lining material and pin to the fabric at the back of the heart to cover all raw edges. Slip stitch in place around the edge with small stitches.

TOP TIP! IF YOU CAN'T FIND A FOAM BOARD, CORRUGATED PLASTIC IS A GOOD ALTERNATIVE AND CAN BE PURCHASED FROM SIGN WRITERS. LAYER IT UP SO THE LINES RUN AT RIGHT ANGLES, MAKING THE HEART STURDIER


CLOTHING BOOK 1947-48
Someone Special

> "Once you have used up all the pages simply remove the notebook from the cover and replace it with a fresh one"

CORINNE BRADD
DESIGNER

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Sit 'n' stitch caddy

Organise your sewing tools with this handy holder that sits over the arm of the sofa

KIT LIST

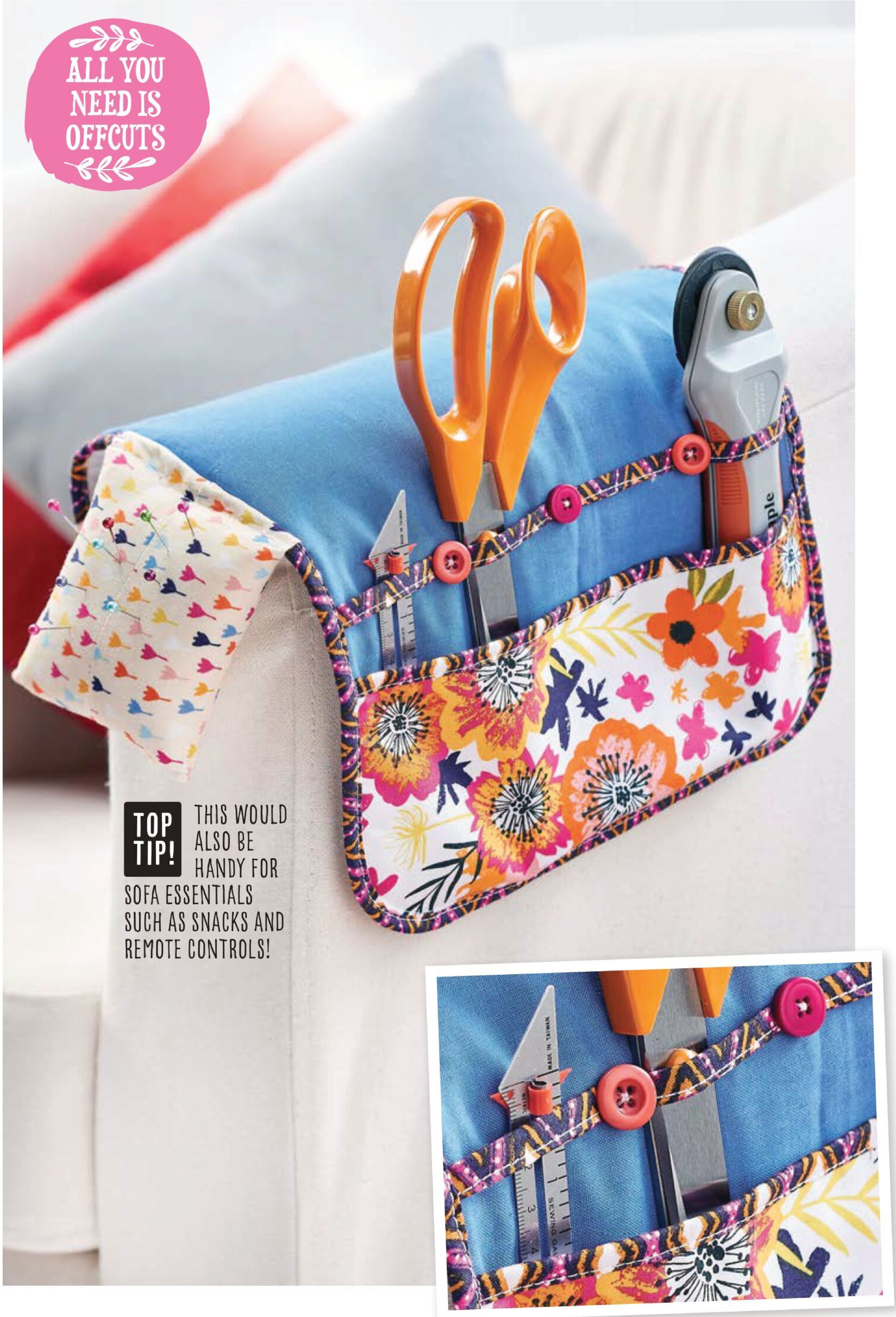
- ★ Assorted print fabrics
- ★ Plain cotton, white, coloured
- ★ Lightweight wadding
- ★ Stuffing
- ★ White sewing thread
- ★ Buttons, three

1 Cut one 25cm x 40cm piece each from white cotton, wadding and plain coloured cotton. Layer and pin together. Trim two 11cm x 25cm sections of patterned cotton and pair up with two 11cm x 25cm white rectangles, right sides out. Cut 3cm wide strips of a contrast print and bind the top edge of each rectangle.

2 Pin the bound rectangles to either end of the larger layered piece to create pockets and round the corners. Zig-zag stitch around the edges to hold the sections together, then run a line of topstitch down the centre of one pocket.

3 Sew 12cm x 20cm of print fabric into a bag, turn right side out and topstitch across the open side, 2cm in from the edge and three-quarters of the way across. Stuff firmly and backstitch it closed to create a pincushion.

4 Zig-zag stitch the excess seam of the pincushion to one side of the large rectangle, between the pockets. Make a 3cm x 25cm length of piping from a strip of the fabric used for the binding (Step 1). Pin across the rectangle 3cm above one pocket. Bind the edges of the rectangle as before, covering the raw edges. Section the piping into loops by sewing buttons over the top at regular intervals.



ALL YOU NEED IS OFFCUTS

TOP TIP! THIS WOULD ALSO BE HANDY FOR SOFA ESSENTIALS SUCH AS SNACKS AND REMOTE CONTROLS!

DESIGNER **SOPHIA PALMER**

Rainbow hoop

MAKE WITH mum

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

Sew your own dreamy décor with our colourful felt design

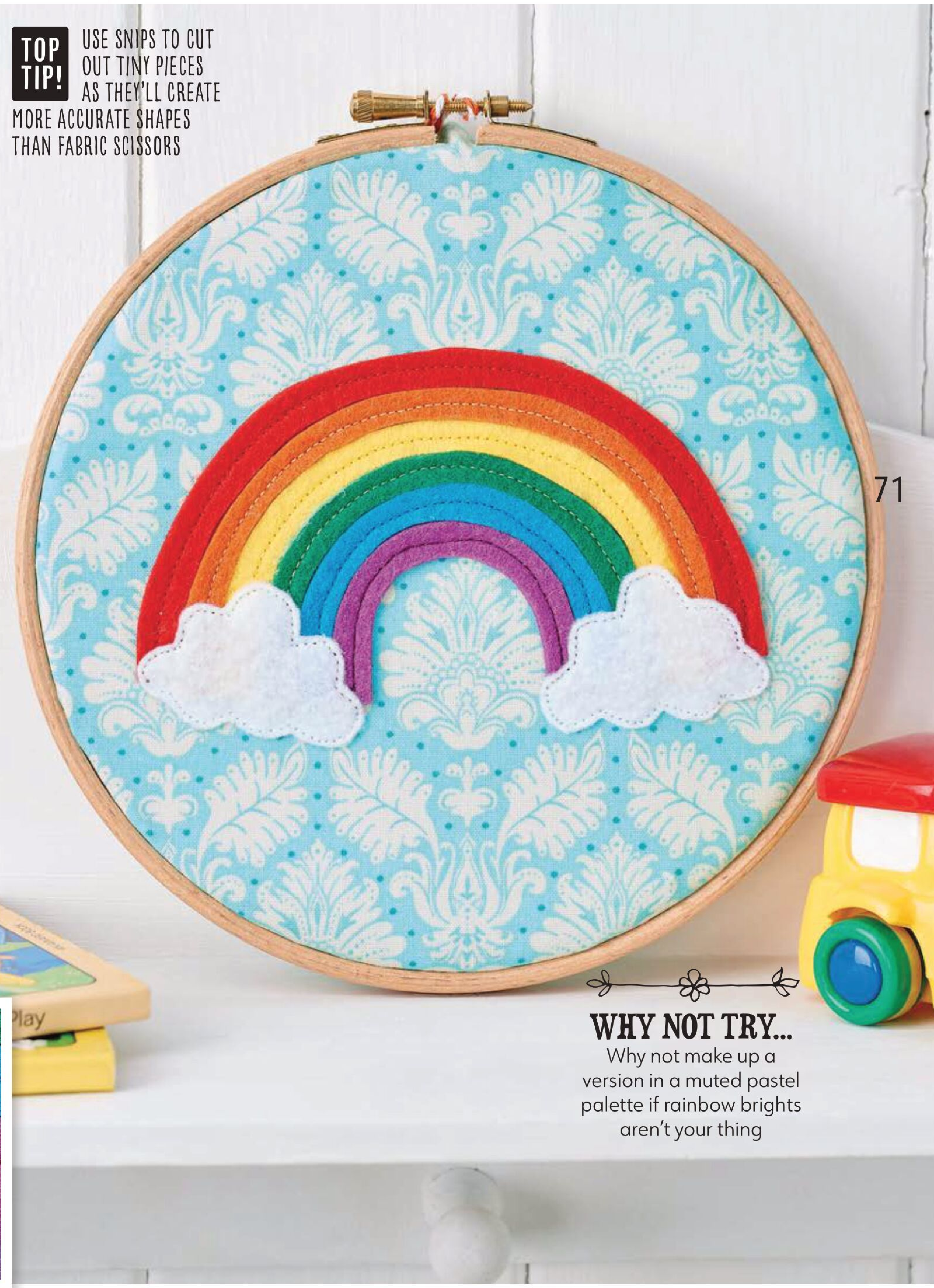
KIT LIST

★ Felt: coloured, white ★ Fabric, blue patterned ★ Thread, various colours ★ Wooden embroidery hoop ★ Interfacing, iron-on ★ Twine ★ Fabric glue

1 Find the templates online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Draw around the inside ring of an embroidery hoop onto iron-on-interfacing, then cut 2.5cm around the outside of that line, to create a larger circle. Iron the interfacing onto the back of patterned fabric and cut out the bigger shape.

2 Using the template, draw and cut out each shape from felt. Lay the pieces in place on the circle, using the hoop as a frame. Pin or glue the shapes in place, then machine sew using various coloured threads. Add the clouds to each end of the rainbow, and stitch in place.

3 Press the piece, then insert it into the hoop. Pull the fabric tightly, then use the metal fixture to secure it. When satisfied with the positioning, trim any excess threads, then add a piece of twine to the hoop for hanging.



TOP TIP! USE SNIPS TO CUT OUT TINY PIECES AS THEY'LL CREATE MORE ACCURATE SHAPES THAN FABRIC SCISSORS

WHY NOT TRY...

Why not make up a version in a muted pastel palette if rainbow brights aren't your thing

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Everlasting bouquet

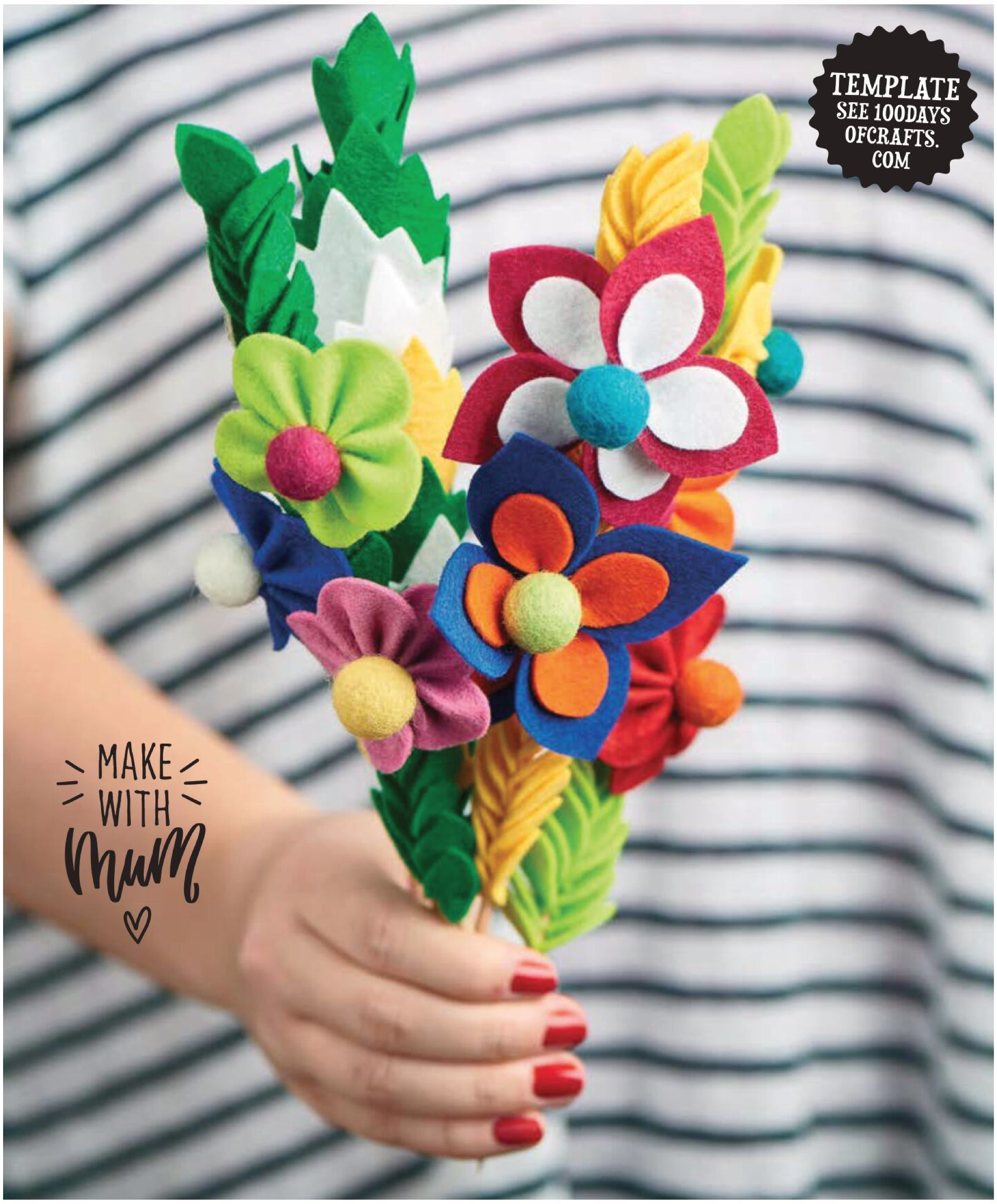
Enjoy a splash of colour in your home with this cheery posy you can enjoy all year round

KIT LIST

★ Felt: light and dark green, yellow, blue, pink, orange, red, white ★ Eight 1.5cm felt balls ★ Four wooden skewers

CUTTING GUIDE

★ **Small stem leaf:** cut six from dark green felt
★ **Large stem leaf:** cut six each from dark green, white and yellow felt
★ **Daisy stem leaf:** cut 60 each from dark and light green, and yellow felt
★ **Daisy:** cut one each from green, blue, pink, orange, red and yellow felt
★ **Small chrysanthemum:** cut five from white and four from orange felt
★ **Large chrysanthemum:** cut five from red and four from blue felt



TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

MAKE WITH mum

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com, then cut out the pieces as indicated in the cutting guide. Wrap the bottom edge of a small stem leaf around the top of a skewer and secure with a couple of stitches. Add two more, working at a different angle each time. Repeat with the large stem leaves, alternating between colours, before finishing with the last three small ones, finishing 5cm from the bottom of the skewer.

2 To make the stems, wrap the bottom edge of a dark green daisy stem leaf around the top of a skewer and secure as before. Add another to face the opposite direction, then repeat so that all 60 create a herringbone effect, finishing 5cm from the bottom of the skewer. Repeat with yellow and light green leaves to make two more stems.

3 Sew a line of 5mm-long running stitch along the bottom of a daisy piece, 5mm from the edge. Pull to gather, then secure with a couple of stitches. Sew a contrasting felt ball to the centre. Repeat to make five more. Stitch three daisies to each flower stem at different heights.

4 Place a small white chrysanthemum petal on top of a large red one, matching the inner points. Pinch these points together and make a couple of stitches across to secure. Repeat with the other four red and white petals, plus the orange and blue ones. Stitch the petals together, then add a felt ball to the centre. Stitch both onto the remaining flower stem.

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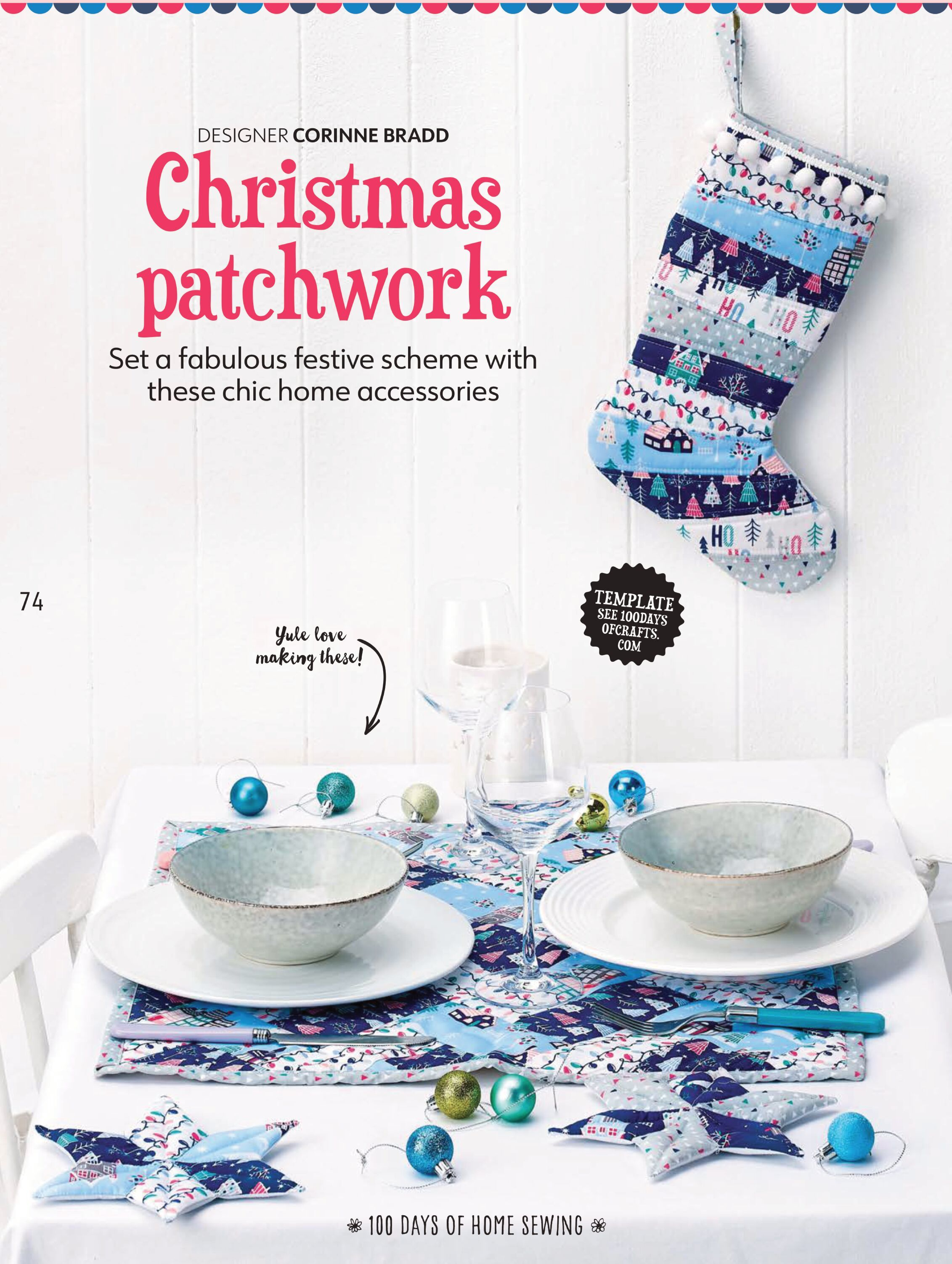
DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Christmas patchwork

Set a fabulous festive scheme with these chic home accessories



Yule love making these!

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: Christmas Village fat quarters; white cotton
★ Lightweight quilt wadding ★ Pom-pom trim
★ Fabric waterproofer
★ Round elastic,1.5mm

STOCKING

1 Download and print the template found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut a stocking shape from quilt wadding and white cotton, then pin together. Cut six pieces of patterned fabric, 8cm x 20cm. Cut across each one at a slight diagonal angle, then pin one strip right side up along the top edge of the stocking.

2 Place a second strip face down on the first strip, lining up the bottom edge. Sew across the bottom edge with a 0.5cm seam allowance. Turn out and press before topstitching 0.5cm either side of the seam.

3 Add a third piece to the bottom of the second strip in the same way, ensuring the fabric overlaps the edges of the stocking. Vary the way the slanted strips are placed to create a random stripe, then continue adding fabric using the quilt-as-you-go method.

4 Once the stocking is completely covered, trim the patchwork to the same shape as the wadding and zig-zag stitch around the edges. Make reverse stocking shapes from patterned fabric, wadding and white cotton, then zig-zag the edges to hold the layers together before sewing to the patchwork piece, right sides together. Clip the curves and turn right sides out.

5 Cut fabric, 5cm x 20cm, then fold right sides together and stitch down the long edge. Turn out and fold in half to make a loop, then tack to the top back of the stocking, matching the raw edges. Cut a 3cm wide strip in the same fabric and use to bind the top of the stocking, securing the loop as you do so. Hand-sew a length of pom-pom trim around the bottom of the binding.

FAB IDEAS FOR FAT QUARTERS

TABLE MAT

1 This mat uses 36 rectangles split into three columns of 12. Start by cutting several rectangles, 7cm x 13cm, from three different fabrics. Lay out the first column on a flat surface in a herringbone design with the rectangles slanting up, alternating the fabrics as you go. Start from the base of the column and stitch the short edge of the first rectangle to the lower edge of the second rectangle, with a 0.5cm seam allowance.

2 Open out these pieces and sew the lower edge of the third rectangle to the top edge of the joined first and second sections, lining up the short edge of the third with the long edge of the second. Stop the seam 1.5cm from the end of the third piece. Continue stitching the rectangles together in this way, leaving 1.5cm free at the end each time. Lay out and sew together two more identical columns.

3 Take the first and second column and start working from the top of each. Line up the short edge of the first rectangle in one column with the leftover long edge from the other. Check that the points at the ends of the columns are still level, then sew together. Line up the next set of adjacent edges and stitch together, carrying on from the previously unsewn sections of the seam to give a smooth line. Continue sewing the columns in this way.

4 Press the quilt top and trim the wide zig-zag edges from one side. Take

this over to the other edge of the patchwork and stitch onto the corresponding zig-zag. Cut across the points of the columns to straighten the top edge, and stitch the resulting triangles into the recesses at the base of the quilt to create straight edges. Pin the patchwork onto wadding and white cotton backing fabric. Topstitch the design as desired, before trimming the edges and binding with 4cm wide strips of coordinating fabric.

STAR COASTERS

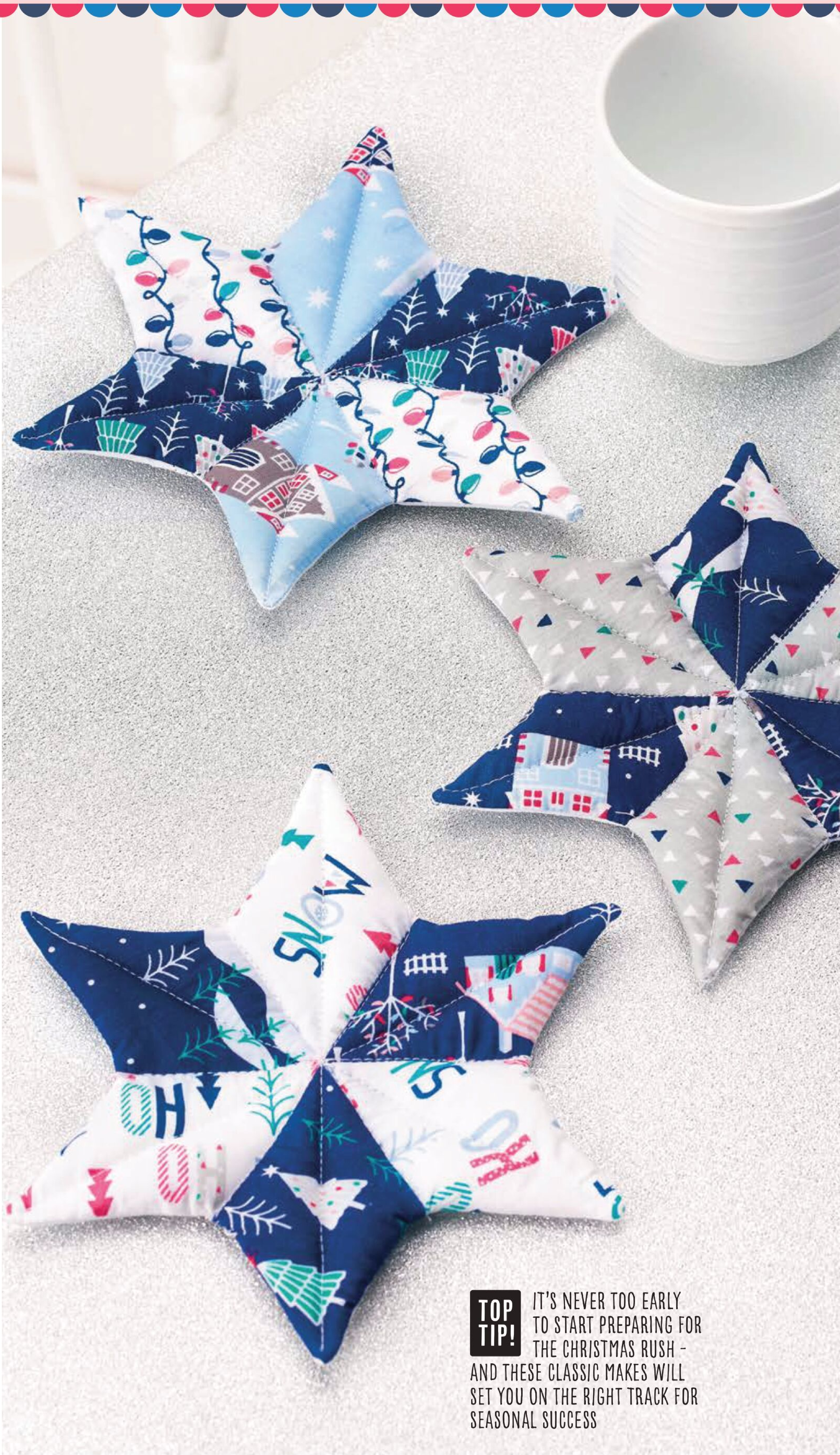
1 Using the template cut six diamond shapes from three different fabrics, adding a 0.5cm seam allowance onto each edge. Sew three contrasting pieces together on the lower diagonals to make a fan shape, then repeat with the remaining three pieces. Stitch the two fans together to make a star, matching the centre seams accurately, then press.

2 Pin the star face down onto a 20cm star of white cotton, backed with quilt wadding. Stitch around the edges, leaving a 3cm gap in the centre of one straight edge. Trim away the excess fabric, clip the inner corners and cut off the points before turning out through the gap.

3 Use a point turner to ensure the arms of the star are turned out properly. Fold in the raw edges of the gap and slip-stitch closed. Topstitch from the centre of the star out to all points and angles.

the CRAFTS CHANNEL

SEE THE STEP-BY-STEP QUILT AS YOU GO TUTORIAL AT
youtube.com/thecraftschannel.com



TOP TIP! IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PREPARING FOR THE CHRISTMAS RUSH – AND THESE CLASSIC MAKES WILL SET YOU ON THE RIGHT TRACK FOR SEASONAL SUCCESS

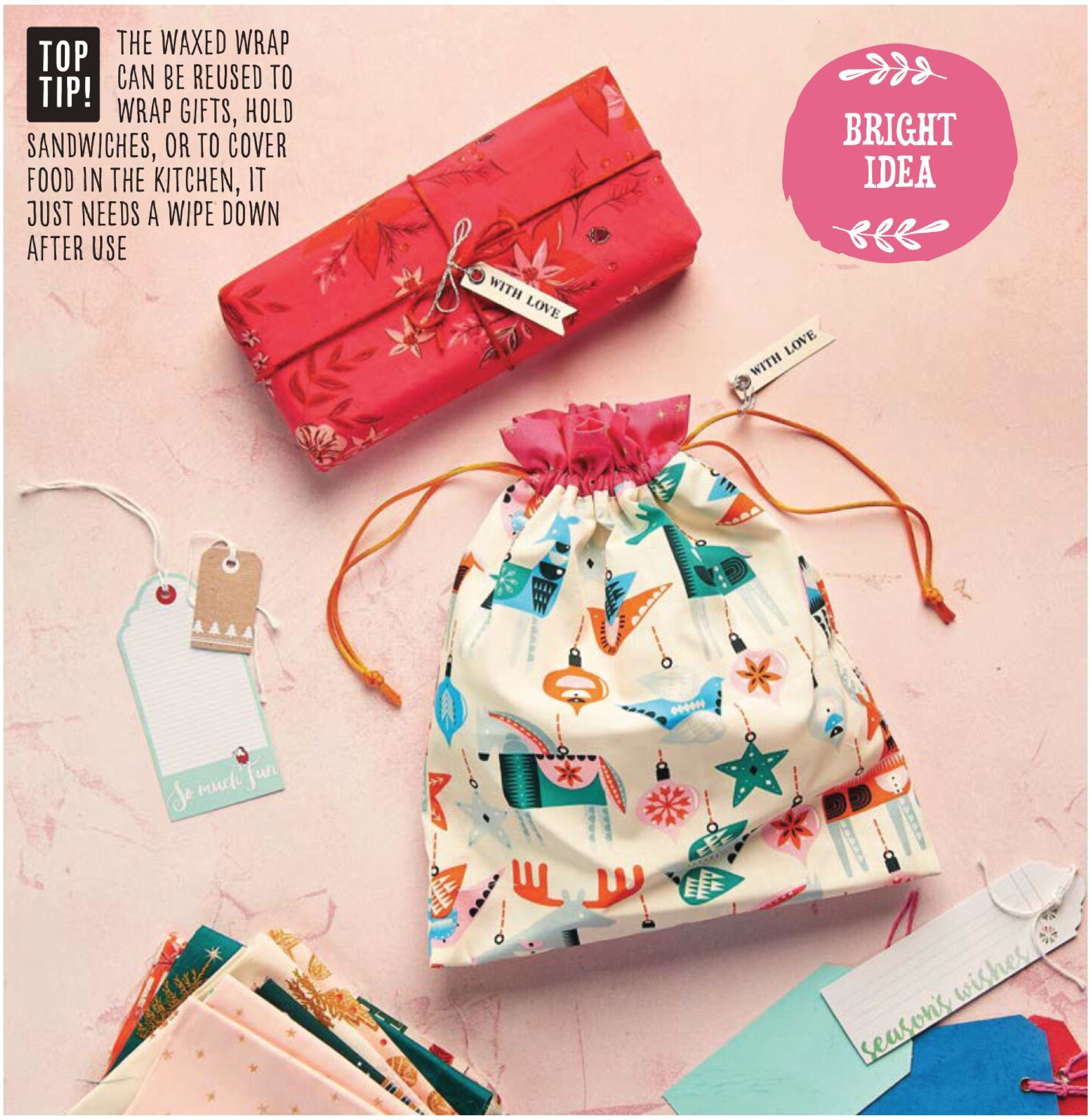
DESIGNERS **AMANDA WALKER & CORINNE BRADD**

Fabric gift wrap

Avoid wasteful wrapping paper with these stunning and sustainable ideas that can be reused over and over again

KIT LIST

★ Cotton fabric, plain, printed (we used Art Gallery Fabrics Christmas in the City) ★ Satin cord: orange, red ★ Orange felt pom-pom ★ Safety pin ★ 10mm ribbon ★ Button ★ Wax pellets ★ Ric-rac ★ Greaseproof paper ★ Pinking shears ★ Iron



TOP TIP! THE WAXED WRAP CAN BE REUSED TO WRAP GIFTS, HOLD SANDWICHES, OR TO COVER FOOD IN THE KITCHEN, IT JUST NEEDS A WIPE DOWN AFTER USE

BRIGHT IDEA

WAXED WRAP

1 Cut fabric to a size needed to wrap your gift and neaten the edges with a pair of pinking shears to stop them fraying. Cut two pieces of greaseproof paper a little larger, then lay the fabric face down onto one of these pieces.

2 Scatter the wax pellets over the surface of the fabric and lay the remaining sheet on top. Move a hot iron on top of the paper to melt the wax and distribute it evenly over the surface of the fabric. Carefully lift the top layer of paper and if there are any areas that are not waxed, lay a few pellets over them, replace the paper and iron again.

3 When you are happy that the wax is evenly distributed over the entire surface, remove the fabric from the papers and leave to cool thoroughly. When the fabric is dry it can be used as paper to wrap your gift and secured with cord.

DRAWSTRING BAG

1 Cut two 24cm x 25cm rectangles from a patterned fabric. Next, cut two 10cm x 25cm strips from a contrasting fabric, these will become the channels for the drawstrings.

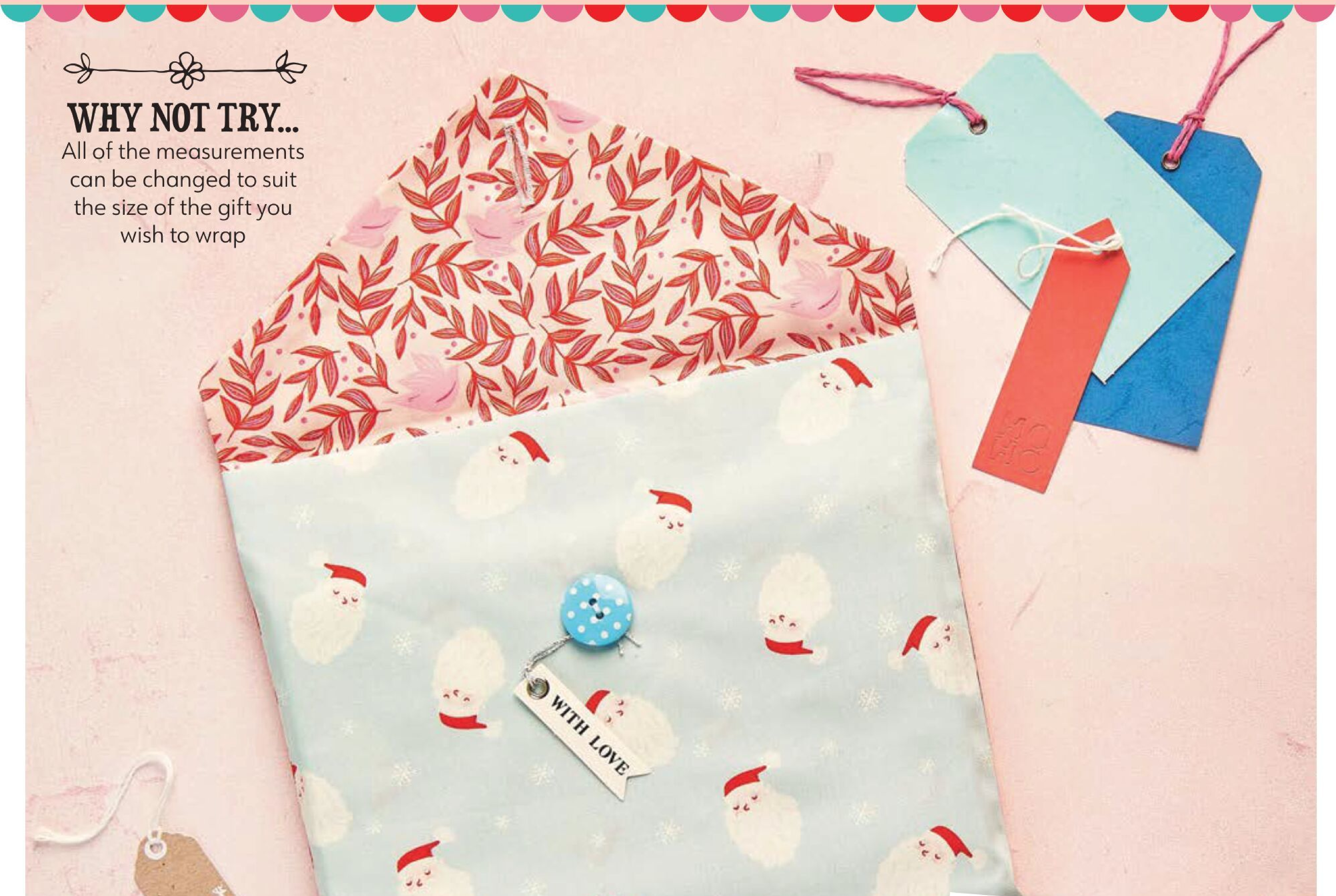
2 Pin the two rectangles right sides together, making sure that the fabric design is running in the same direction on both pieces. Stitch with a 1cm seam allowance down the 24cm side across the base, then up the remaining 24cm side. Neaten the edges of the seam allowance by either overlocking or with a zig-zag stitch. Turn the bag right side out, tease out the seam edges and the corners, and press flat.

3 Fold and press in 1cm on the 10cm ends of the channel strips, then edge stitch in place. Fold the strips in half lengthways, wrong sides together. Pin one of the strips to the top of one side of the bag and the remaining strip to the other side, matching all the raw edges together. Stitch the strips in place again with a 1cm seam allowance. Neaten the edges, then fold and press the channels upwards.

4 Cut two lengths of cord measuring double the width of the bag plus an extra 6cm. Attach an end of one cord to a safety pin and thread it around the two channels, entering and exiting through the same side. Repeat with the remaining length of cord, this time entering and exiting through the opposite side of the bag. Tie the two ends in a knot. When the cords are pulled in opposite directions, the bag will gather and close.

WHY NOT TRY...

All of the measurements can be changed to suit the size of the gift you wish to wrap



"Make sure your ironing board is well protected when waxing the fabric to avoid hot wax leaking onto it"

AMANDA WALKER
DESIGNER

ENVELOPE BAG

1 Use one patterned fabric for the front, one for the back and flap, and one for the lining. Cut a 25cm x 42cm rectangle from one of the fabrics, then fold and press it in half with the wrong sides facing; this is the front of the bag.

2 Cut a 25cm x 34cm rectangle from a different fabric. Measure 25cm up from the base of the rectangle and mark on both side edges. Find the centre point at the top edge and draw a line from the centre to the 25cm marks. Trim away these triangles to form the pointed flap of the bag. Use this piece as a template to cut another one in a contrasting fabric.

3 Sandwich the folded front rectangle between the two other pieces, right sides facing, the raw edges of the folded rectangle being matched to the base of the two shaped rectangles. Pin the edges together and stitch up one side, around the point and down the opposite side, leaving the base open. Trim the seam allowance from the point and turn right side out through the open base.

4 Now all the layers at the base of the bag can be stitched together. Trim back the corners and turn the front of the bag over taking the raw edges inside. Tease out the seams and corners, then press flat. Make a vertical buttonhole in the centre of the flap just above the point and stitch a button to the corresponding place on the bag front.

GUSSETED BAG

1 This bag is made using two patterned fabrics, one for the outer bag and one for the lining. For the outer bag, cut two 27cm x 28cm rectangles; this is one of the fabrics from the set cut in half to enable the fabric design to run in the same direction on both the front and back of the bag. The lining can be left in one piece. Fold and press this piece in half with the right sides of the fabric facing each other.

2 Working on the outer bag first, lay the two rectangles right sides together. Pin and stitch down each side and across the base. Press the seam allowances open. To form the gusset and the base of the bag, pinch one of the corner points then lay the base seam flat against the side seam, making sure that they are laying exactly on top of each other. Lay the corner flat on a surface and pin through the seams to keep in place.

3 Measure 4cm along the seam from the point, then from this position draw a line at right angles to the seam, out to the folded edges created when the seams were laid together. Stitch across the drawn line. The resulting triangle can then be trimmed away or left intact as it is to create a more solid base to the bag. The same process is then repeated on the opposite corner forming the base and gusset of the bag. Once done, turn the bag right side out.

4 The same process is repeated with the lining, but this time just stitch down each side leaving a 5cm gap in one of the stitching lines. Press the seams open. The pressed fold in the base of the lining this time will be matched to the side seams and again the same process is used to form the gussets.

5 Place the turned outer bag inside the unturned lining. Find the centre point on one of the top edges and sandwich a loop of satin cord between the layers at this point. Secure in place with a pin then match the top edges of the outer bag and the lining together. Pin and stitch all the way around this top edge.

6 Turn the bags right side out through the gap left in the lining side seam, then close it by edge stitching together. Fold the lining inside the bag; it will be slightly longer than the outer bag as there is no seam in the base of the lining. Fold the lining to sit proud of the outer bag to create a border.

7 Press all the folds into the bag across the base, then fold and pleat the edges to create gussets. Finally fold over the top of the bag and stitch a felt pom-pom in line with the cord loop to fasten the bag closed to finish.

PETAL BAG

1 Cut a 26cm or 30cm square each from patterned and plain cotton, then pin right sides together. Stitch around the edges, leaving a 4cm gap in the centre of one edge. Clip the corners and turn right sides out. Fold in the raw edges of the gap and press the square.

2 Topstitch the sides of the square, 2mm from the edges. Measure a third of the way along one side, then fold in and finger press the corner at this mark. Repeat for the other corners to make crease lines at 45° to the square. Topstitch parallel lines 5mm either side of the crease lines to make a channel.

3 Snip a small hole in the lining at the end of each channel. Attach a length of 10mm-wide ribbon to a small safety pin and pass through the channels, fastening the ribbon to itself once back at the beginning. Thread another length through the channels, starting opposite the first drawstring, then tie.

4 Seal the ends of a length of ric-rac braid by holding them close to a flame (but ensuring it doesn't touch and burn) to stop them fraying. Hand sew the ric-rac around the inner 'petals' of the bag formed by the corners. Pull both drawstrings in opposite directions to close the bag.

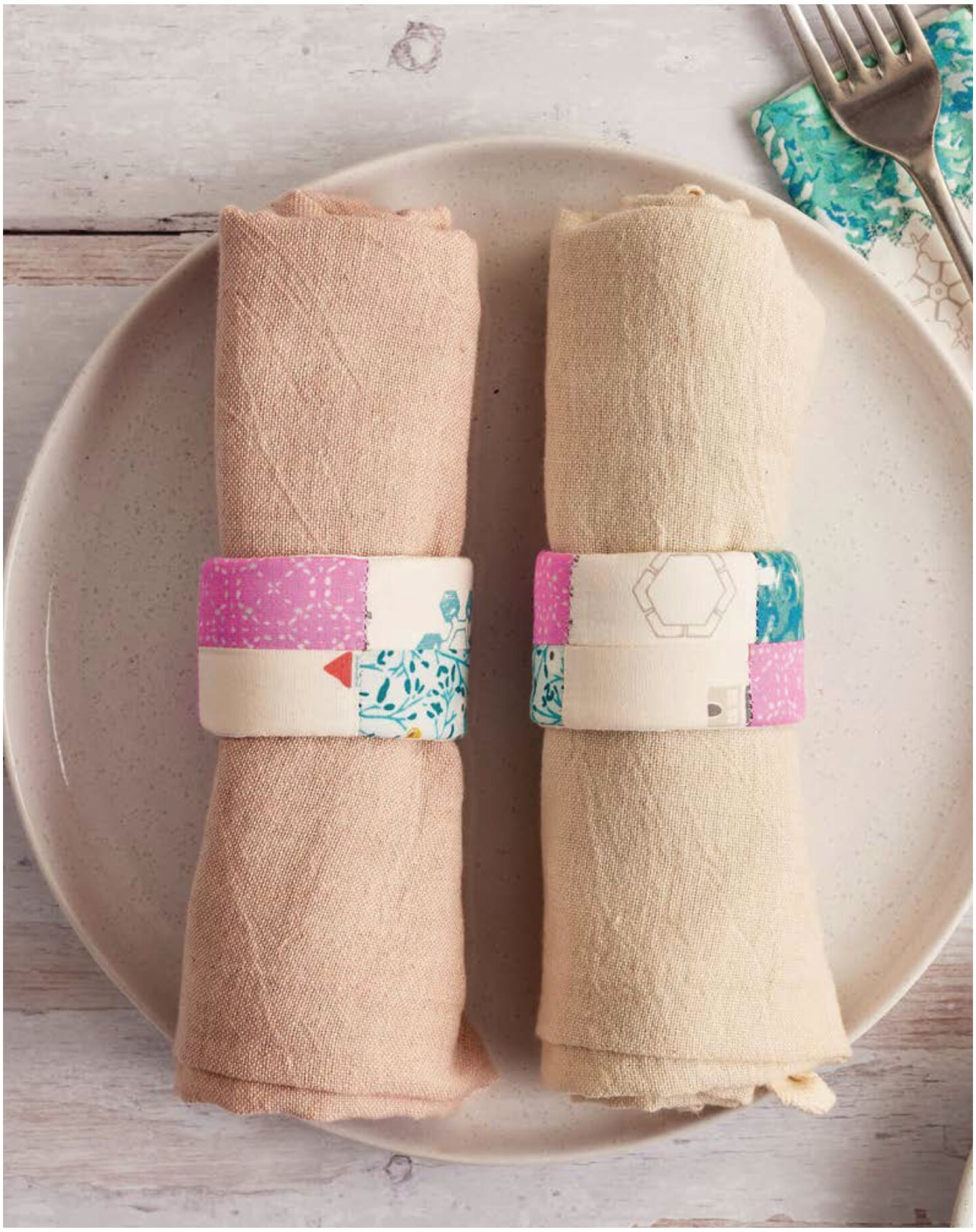
DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Festive tableware

Create a coordinated look for your Christmas dining table using fabric scraps from your stash

KIT LIST

★ Coordinating fabric pieces ★ Lightweight quilt wadding ★ Strip of plastic or thick acetate ★ Coordinating and contrasting thread



PATCHWORK NAPKIN RINGS

1 Sew a patchwork panel from leftover scraps of fabric measuring around 6cm x 15cm. Top stitch the patchwork panel onto lightweight quilt wadding and place right sides together onto a piece of plain fabric measuring the same size.

2 Sew around three sides with a 5mm seam allowance, leaving one short end open. Turn in the raw edges of the gap by 5mm and lightly glue the hem. Turn out the sleeve through the gap and press.

3 Cut a strip of plastic or thick acetate 4.5cm wide by 13.5cm long. Slip this inside the sleeve and curl the fabric into a ring. Use a small hand oversew stitch to join the short ends of the fabric sleeve together.

CUTLERY KEEPERS

1 Cut four strips of fabric, 5cm x 21cm and sew right sides together with a 5mm seam allowance to make a panel of fabric 17cm x 21cm. Press and layer onto lightweight quilt wadding. Use a decorative machine stitch to quilt the fabric along the seams.

2 Cut plain fabric the same size as the quilted panel, stitch together along the top edge and open out. Fold the pieces of fabric in half, right sides together in the opposite direction. Sew down the long seam. Manipulate the tube so the seam is in the centre and sew across the short end of the quilted section. Sew across the short end of the plain section but leave a 4cm gap in the centre.

3 Turn out the sleeve through the gap and push out the corners of the quilted section. Fold in the raw edges of the gap and slip stitch closed. Push the plain part of the sleeve into the quilted part and press.

TOP TIP! ADD A SPRINKLE OF TWINKLE BY USING METALLIC THREAD FOR THE DECORATIVE STITCHING ON THE CUTLERY HOLDERS!

WHY NOT TRY...

Why not make a coordinating striped runner to sit along the centre of your table?

STASH BUSTER

DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Floor cushions

EXPAND YOUR SKILLS

Great for kids and adults alike, these squishy seats are the perfect chance to master piping

KIT LIST

★ Two foam blocks, 10cm x 50cm x 50cm ★ Contrasting fabrics ★ Bias binding ★ Piping cord ★ Wadding ★ Lining fabric ★ Upholstery needle and strong thread ★ Scissors ★ Pins ★ Zipper or piping sewing machine foot

RIBBED CUSHION

1 Wrap fabric lining around the foam block, as if you were wrapping a present. Hand stitch across the opening, fold the corners into the middle and sew to secure.

2 Cut out two 60cm squares from the main fabric and four 20cm x 60cm strips in contrasting fabric. Repeat these measurements in wadding. Tack each piece of wadding onto the wrong side of each corresponding piece of material.

3 Using 1.5cm seam allowance and right sides together, sew the ends of the four narrow strips together, starting the stitching line 1.5cm from the long edge and ending the same distance from the other long edge.

4 Pin a square panel into the 'fabric frame', wadding side up, with corners of the square fitting into the gaps left at the corners. Using a 1.5cm seam allowance, stitch each edge of the square to its side strip. Repeat the process with the remaining square, leaving one of the edges open to insert the foam block.

TOP TIP! FOAM CAN STICK TO FABRIC, SO MAKE A LINING COVER FOR THE BLOCK TO ENSURE INSERTING AND ADJUSTING THE TOP COVER IS EASIER

5 Clip the corners and turn the cover to the right side. Tease out the corners and press. Place the covered foam block into the cover, pin the gap together and slip-stitch.

6 Create a rolled edge by centring the foam inside the cover and pinning the excess fabric together. When you are happy that the rolls are even on each side, use a strong upholstery needle to make large stab stitches around the top and base of the cushion.

PIPED BOX CUSHION

1 Envelope the second foam block in lining as before. Cut out two 51.5cm squares for the top and base panels. Take the contrasting fabric and snip four 11.5cm x 51.5cm strips.

2 Make the piping by ironing out the folds in the bias binding and tucking the piping cord into the central fold. Attach a piping or zipper foot to your sewing machine.

3 Match the raw edges of both the piping and the cushion so both are pointing outwards. At a centre-point on one side, start stitching the piping to one of the sides of a square panel, keeping as close to the covered piping cord as possible. Stop stitching as you near the first corner of the cushion, leaving the needle anchored in your work and clip into the seam allowance of the piping by no more than 1.5cm (to allow it to stretch around the corner). Continue stitching and repeat on each corner.

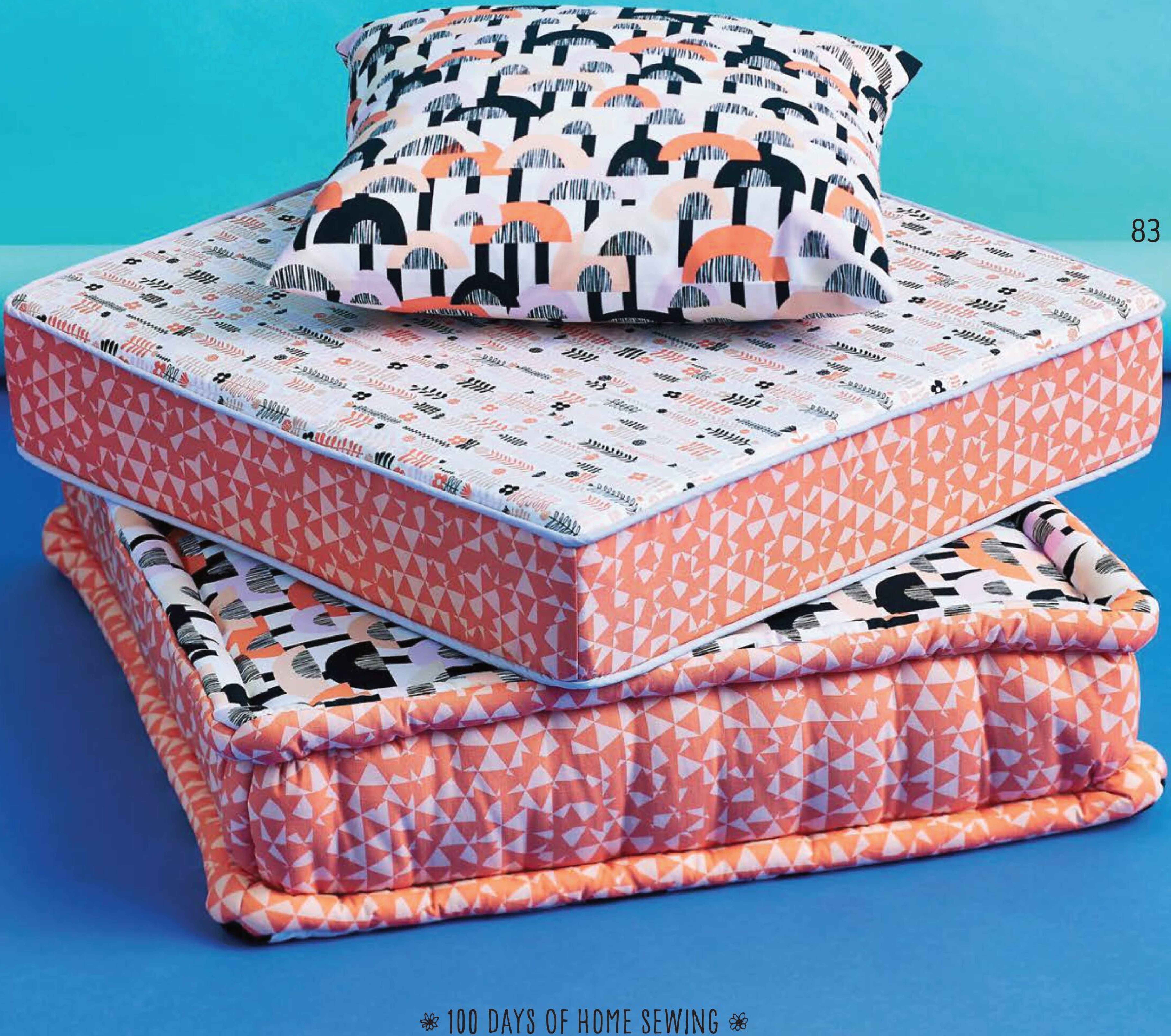
4 Finish sewing 15cm away from the start. Trim excess cord and trim the binding so that the two ends overlap by 3cm. Lay the piping back into the binding and continue to stitch to the square panel.

5 With 1.5cm seam allowance and right sides together, sew the ends of the four narrow strips together, starting the stitching line 1.5cm from the long edge.

6 Pin one of the contrasting piped squares into the frame, wadding side up, with the corners of the square fitting into the gaps left at the corners of the frame. With a 1.5cm seam allowance, use the piping or zipper foot to stitch each piped edge of the square to its corresponding side strip. Repeat the process with the remaining piped square, leaving one edge open to insert the foam block.

7 Clip corners and turn cover right side out. Tease out the corners and press. Insert the block into the cover, pin edges of the gap together and close gap with a slip-stitch.

TOP TIP! A STAB STITCH IS USED TO ATTACH A SEAM OR A GATHERING OF FABRIC TO MATERIAL DIRECTLY BELOW IT. USE IT ON THE RIBBED CUSHION TO SECURE THE COVER TO THE FOAM SO IT DOESN'T SLIP AROUND INSIDE. IT WILL ALSO CREATE RIBS ALL AROUND THE CUSHION TO MAKE IT LOOK EXTRA COMFY

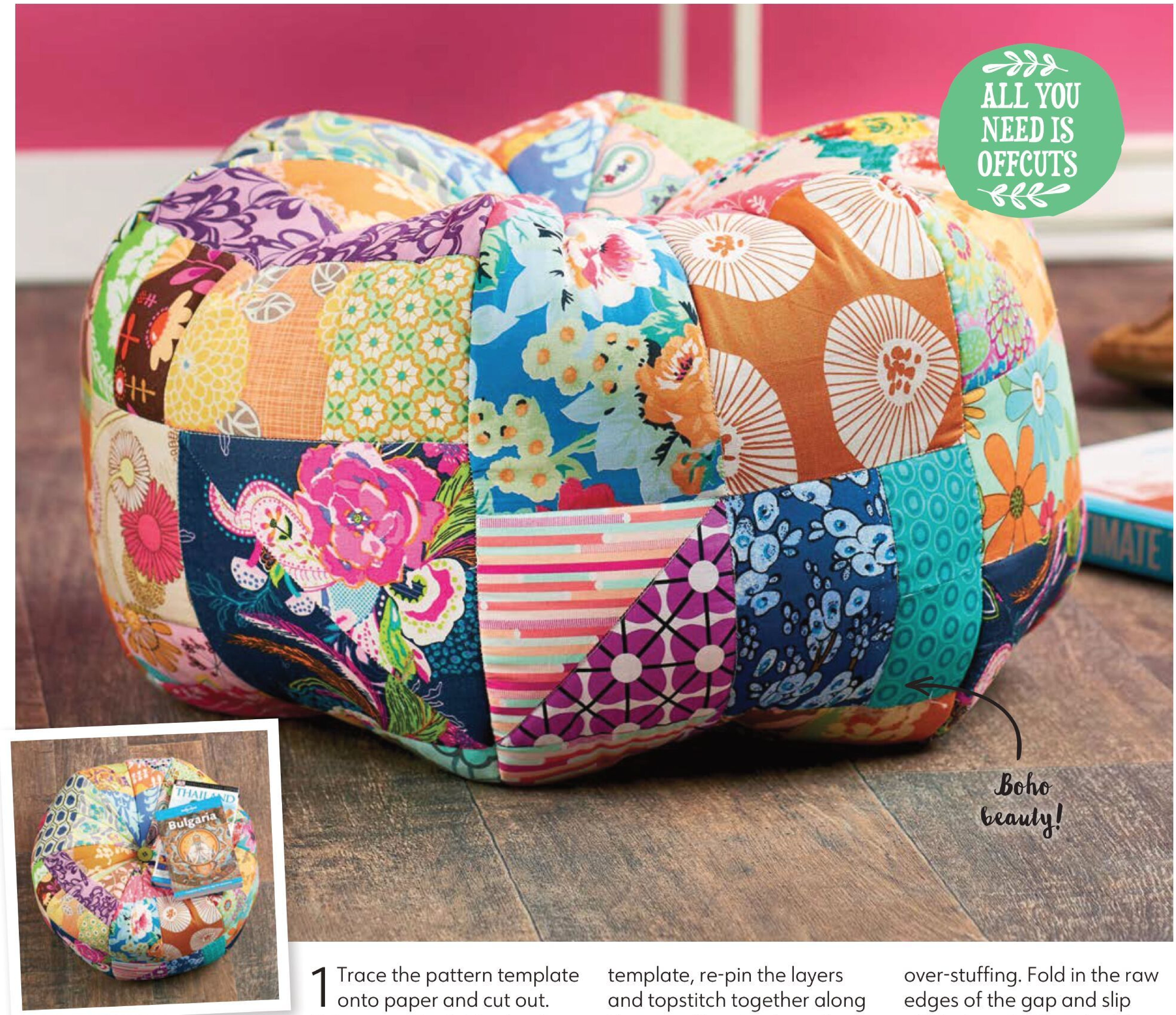


DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Pumpkin pouffe

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

Made with patchwork panels, you can stitch this comfy cushion in colours and prints to suit your scheme



KIT LIST

- ★ Cotton fabric scraps
- ★ 2oz quilt wadding
- ★ Fibre filling
- ★ Large buttons
- ★ Doll maker's (long) needle
- ★ Strong thread

1 Trace the pattern template onto paper and cut out. Take some straight edged cotton fabric scraps and arrange to form a panel that is larger than the template. Sew the patches right sides together with a 1cm seam allowance and press.

2 Lay the patchwork onto wadding, right side up, and pin the template over this. Cut out both layers around the template. Remove template, re-pin the layers and topstitch together along the seam lines to strengthen.

3 Make five more panels in the same way using a variety of fabric colours, prints and sizes. Stitch the panels right sides together on the long edge to make a ball shape, leaving a 20cm long gap in the centre of one seam. Turn the ball right sides out.

4 Firmly stuff the pouffe with fibre filling to the point of over-stuffing. Fold in the raw edges of the gap and slip stitch closed with a double thread for extra security. Take a doll maker's needle and strong thread, then use these to stitch a button to the top and bottom of the pouffe where the panels meet. Run the thread from button to button, pulling taut as you do so to draw the ends of the pouffe towards the middle, making a pumpkin shape.

DESIGNER **CHARLOTTE BALDWIN-TURNER**

Bean bag

Chill out and relax with this simple-to-stitch seating – the only tricky part comes in filling the sack without spilling the beans!

KIT LIST

★ 2m cream cotton for lining ★ 2m chosen outer fabric ★ 51cm zip ★ Thread in chosen colour ★ Polystyrene balls

TOP TIPS

★ Our version has a handle for hanging, is lined to keep the innards safely tucked away, and has a handy zipper to allow you to remove the outer cover for cleaning ★ To avoid beans leaking, make sure all of your stitched seams on both the lining and main fabric are secure with double-stitched ends ★ Polystyrene beans are really light, so ensure that you have all windows closed when filling or they may go flying ★ To fill your bag, we recommend getting an extra pair of hands to hold open the gap for you. Create a funnel out of newspaper, and slowly pour in the beans in small batches. Do this over a bath, so that any loose beans can be contained

SUMPTUOUSLY SOFT

1 Cut out the following shapes from both fabrics: rectangle 60cm x90cm and a half circle with an 87cm arch and a straight width of 51cm. Trim a rectangle,18cm x 26cm, and then a circle with a 26cm circumference. Using just the lining fabric, cut another circle with a 51cm diameter and a circumference of 170cm.

2 For the lining, take the large rectangle piece and sew both 60cm edges together with a 1cm seam allowance. Sew the larger circle around the width of the bottom of the joined pieces, leaving a 20cm gap open. Calculate the placement of the four darts equally around the open end of the beanbag; each measures 12cm deep x 26cm wide. Nip the fabric across the width and sew up the marked darts. Finally, attach the smaller lining circle to the darted end of the bean bag.

3 Taking your large main fabric rectangle, join both 60cm edges with a 1cm seam allowance. Sew the zip to the two straight sides of the half circles, close the zip and join this piece around the bottom of the prepared section. Mark the 12cm x 26cm darts equally four times on the open end of the bean bag, then sew up.

4 Place the two 18cm x 26cm rectangles (main fabric and lining) together, lining on the inside. With right sides facing, sew along the length, then turn back through. Lay the handle centrally on the top circle and pin in place. Sew the smaller circle to the darted end of the bag, catching in the handle.

5 Place the lining inside the outer beanbag and through the 20cm gap, pour the polystyrene balls until it is sufficiently filled. Sew up the opening and zip the bean bag closed to finish.

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

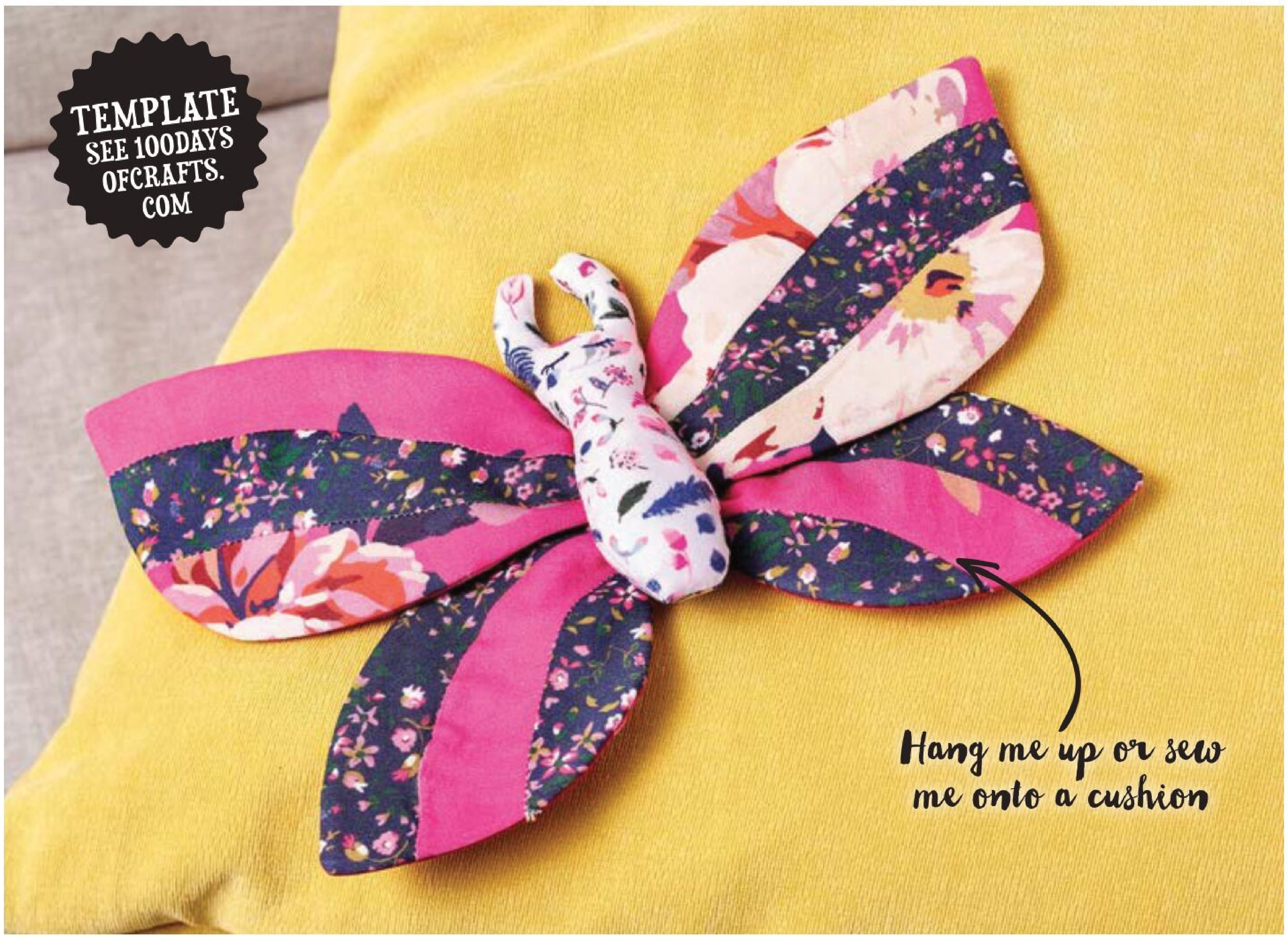
Butterfly cushion

Refresh your sofa with our pretty appliqué cushion and coordinating decoration

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: assorted cotton fat quarters; plain cotton, 42cm x 62cm ★ Lightweight quilt wadding ★ Fusible appliqué sheet ★ Fibre filling ★ Embroidery thread ★ Cushion pad, 40cm square

NB: use 5mm seam allowance, unless otherwise stated



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

Hang me up or sew me onto a cushion

CUSHION COVER

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Fussy cut a 32cm square of floral fabric. Snip several 6cm strips of striped fabric at a right angle to the stripes. Cut one end of a strip at 45° and place the shorter side against one side of the square panel, leaving a 5mm seam allowance at the cut end. Stitch to the side of the square, fold out and press.

2 Cut the remaining end of the strip at 45° in the opposite direction to the first, allowing a 5mm seam allowance. Take a second strip and turn around so the stripes can be mitred and matched up with the slanted end of the first strip. Sew the diagonal seam first to check it matches before trimming the strip and sewing to the next side of the square.

3 Continue matching corners in this way, if you are accurate the final corner should be a perfect match. To save fabric, the strips can be joined end to end, matching up one colour of stripe. Press the finished panel, layer onto a 42cm square of wadding and topstitch along the inner border. Zig-zag along the edges to hold them together.

4 Use the template to draw butterflies onto the backing paper of a fusible adhesive sheet. Iron the sheet onto the reverse of dark and light patterned fabrics. Cut out each shape and peel away the backing. Arrange the butterflies on the cushion front, fuse in place and hand stitch around each one for extra security using a small oversew.

5 Take a piece of plain cotton and cut into two pieces, 31cm x 42cm. Double hem one long edge on each piece. Place the pieces onto the cushion front, right sides together, so they overlap on the hems and line up with the edges of the panel to make an envelope back. Stitch all the way round and turn out. Press and topstitch the edges of the cushion cover 5mm in from the seam.

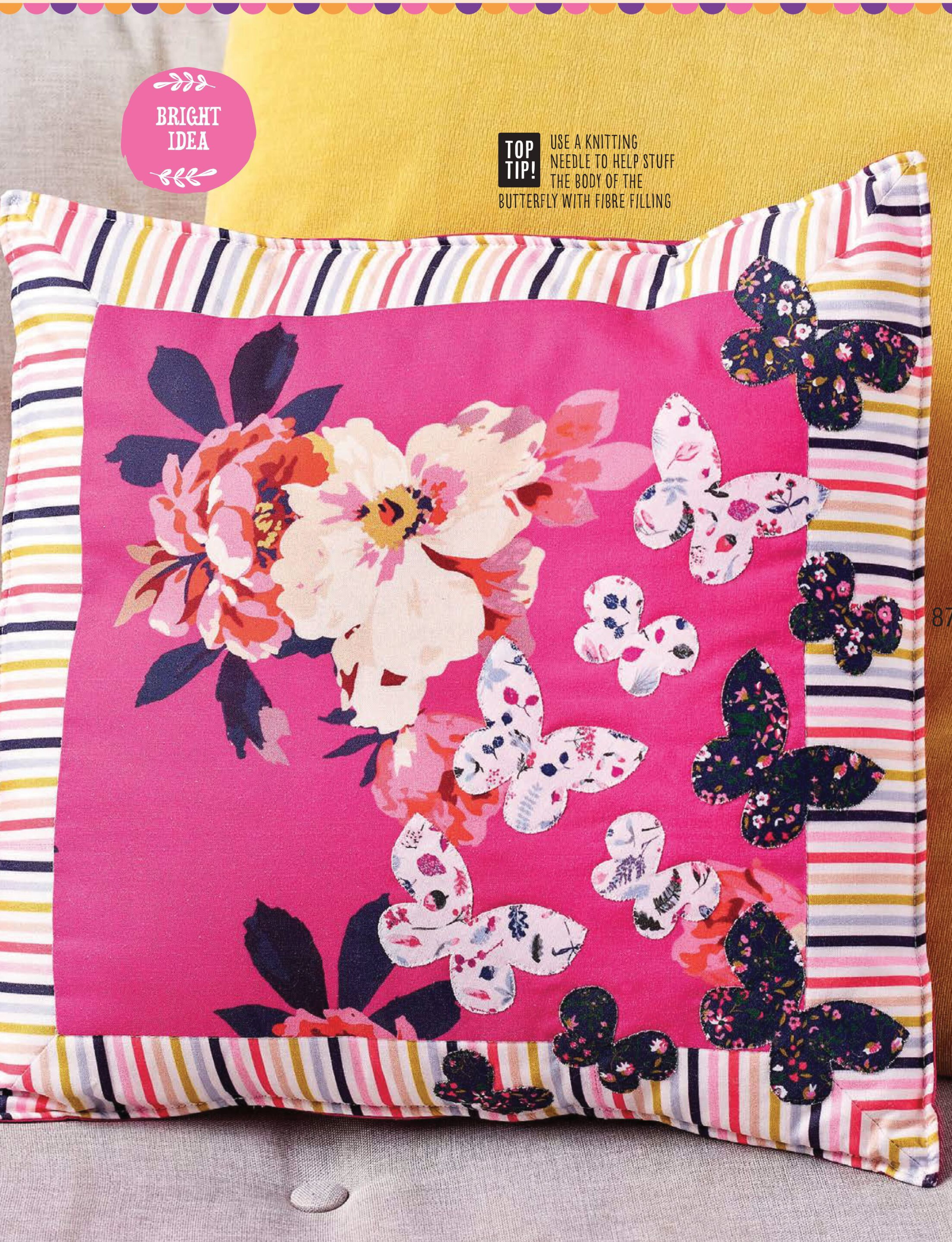
BUTTERFLY DEC

1 Using the templates cut out the body templates from light patterned fabric. Pin, right sides together, and sew all around the shape, leaving a 3cm turning gap. Clip the curves and angles before turning right sides out. Use a knitting needle to help stuff the body with fibre filling, working the fibre up into the antennae. Fold in the edges of the gap and slip stitch closed.

2 Cut mirrored pairs of wings sections. Cut 1, 3, and 5 from a bright shade and 2, 4, and 6 from a dark fabric. Lay out the pieces in the correct order to make two pairs of wings. Tack each set of three wing pieces to each other, right sides together, manipulating each piece to follow the curves. Stitch the sets together and press, trimming up the ends of the wings if necessary.

3 Stitch each wing pair together on the straight end section. Layer right sides down onto plain cotton and wadding. Stitch around the edges leaving a 4cm gap close to the centre. Trim the backing fabrics, turn out and press.

4 Use two strands of embroidery thread to stitch closed eyes on the face of the body piece. Gather the centre of each pair of wings slightly and sew to the back of the body so the top wings overlap the lower ones.



BRIGHT IDEA

TOP TIP! USE A KNITTING NEEDLE TO HELP STUFF THE BODY OF THE BUTTERFLY WITH FIBRE FILLING

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Reading cushion

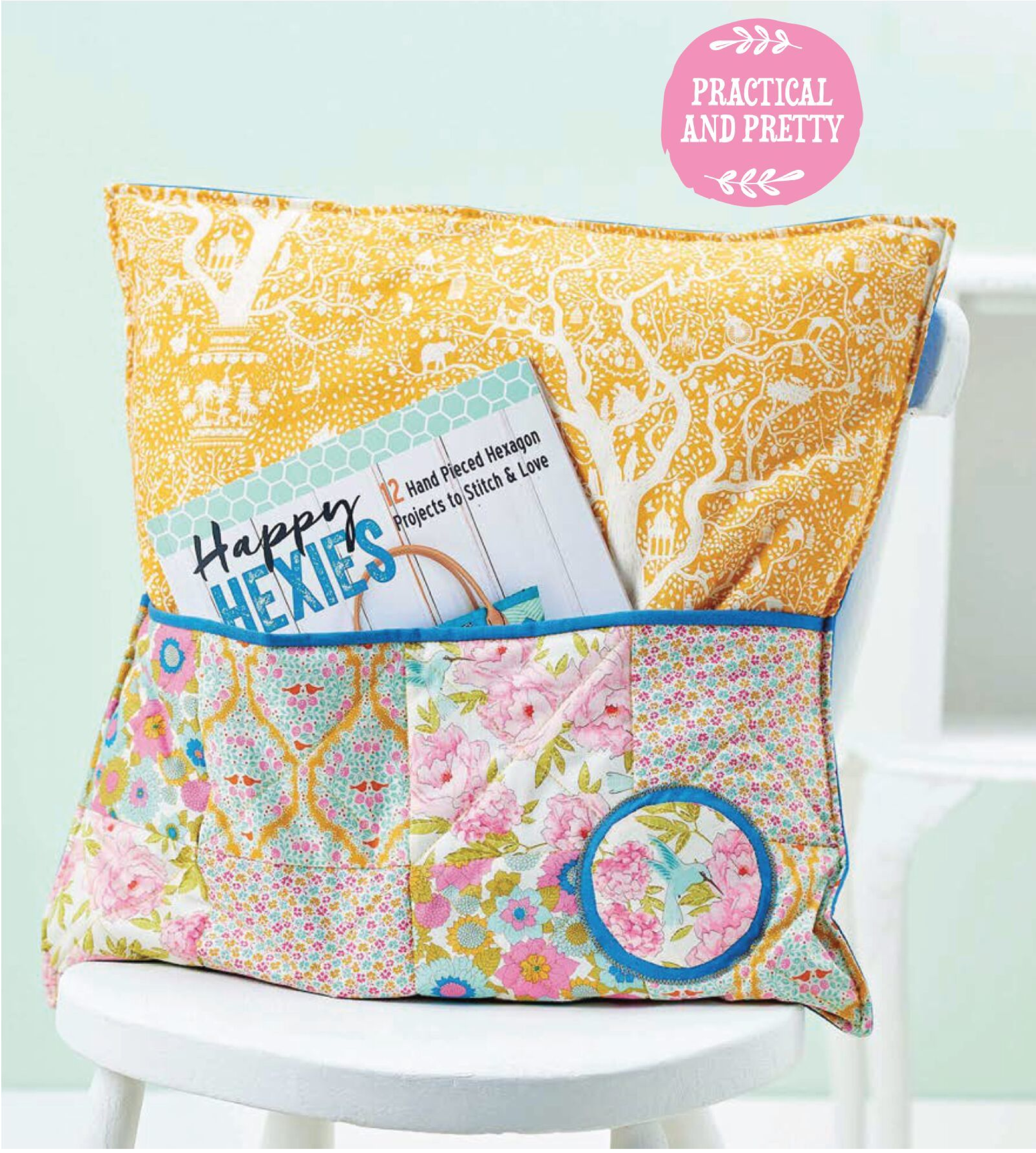
Whip up this stylish accessory in just a couple of hours complete with a pocket to store your latest bedtime read

KIT LIST

★ Assorted printed and plain cottons ★ Quilt wadding ★ Felt ★ 45cm cushion pad

NB: use 5mm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Size: 44cm x 46cm



PRACTICAL AND PRETTY

1 Cut eight 12cm squares from printed cottons, sew right sides together to make a 2 x 4 rectangle and press. Cut a 25cm x 45cm rectangle of coordinating plain cotton and sew to the long edge of the patchwork. Fold the plain fabric right sides out to create a narrow piping line across the top of the patchwork.

2 Cut a 23cm x 45cm rectangle of wadding and pin between the patchwork and plain fabrics. Use a coordinating thread to topstitch along the top piping line and seams. Add lines of diagonal topstitching across each square.

3 Cut one plain 10cm diameter fabric circle and another from printed cotton with a central motif. Trim an 8cm circle of felt and place behind the motif disc. Fold the edges of the motif over the felt and tack before oversewing to the centre of the plain disc. Remove the tacking and appliqué the circles to one side of the patchwork with a small, closely spaced zig-zag stitch.

4 Cut a 45cm square of printed cotton and pin it to a matching sized wadding square. Place the patchwork panel along the bottom edge and secure everything in place with a zig-zag stitch around the edges.

5 Cut two 30cm x 45cm rectangles of plain cotton and hem one long edge on each piece. Place the rectangles over the cushion front, right sides together, with the hemmed edges overlapping to make an envelope back. Stitch all around the cushion cover, clip the corners and turn out through the overlap.

6 Press the cover and topstitch the edges 5mm in from the original seam to create a border. Fit a 45cm cushion pad inside, working in the corners and smoothing the overlapping edges neatly.

TOP TIP! WHY NOT WHIP UP A COLOUR COORDINATING BOOKMARK USING OUR PATTERN ON PAGE 26 OR 66?

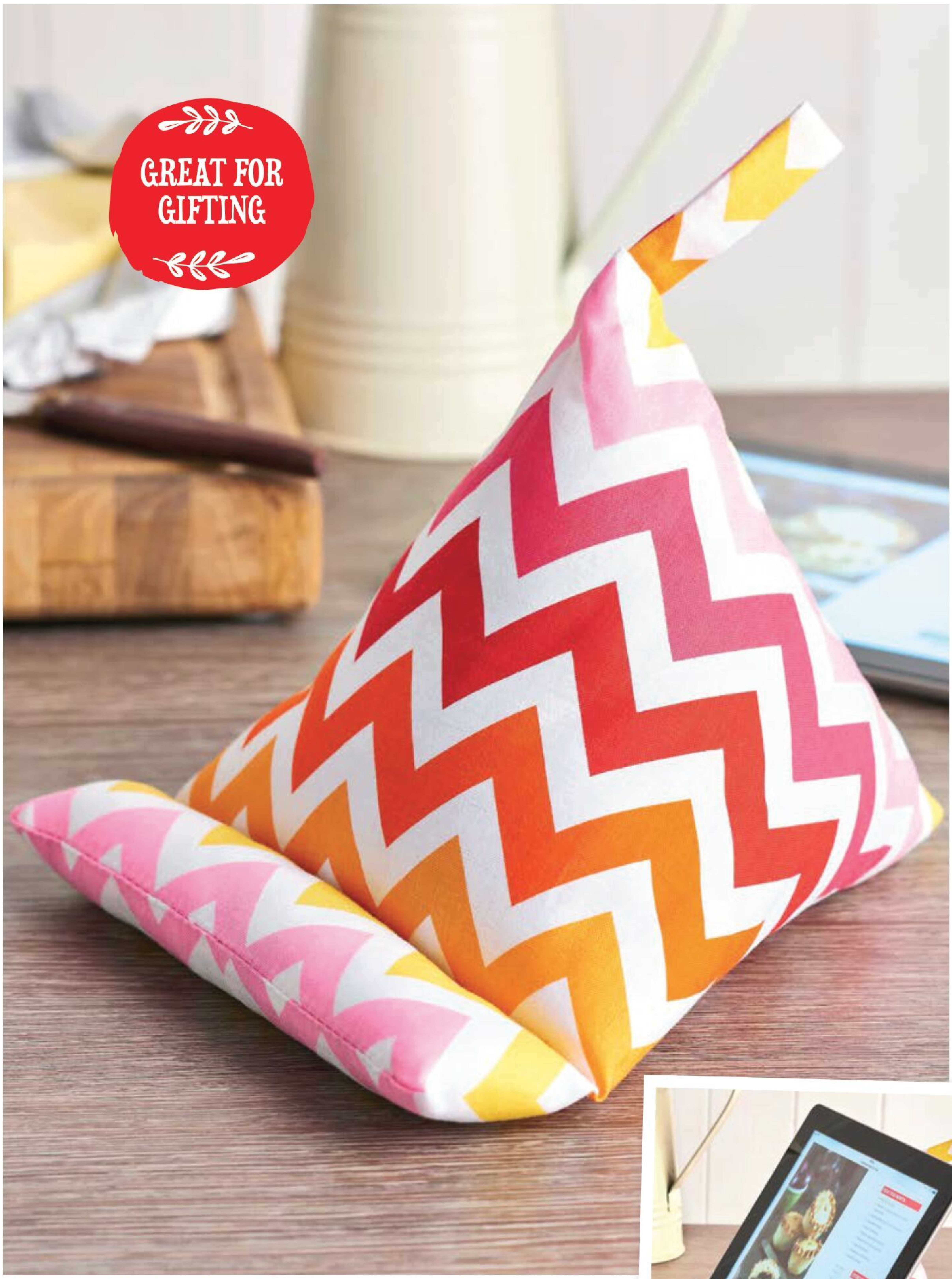
DESIGNER **CHLOE HAILWOOD**

Tablet stand

Rest easy while you prop up your tech on this portable support cushion

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, 25cm x 40cm for stand, 4cm x 15cm for loop ★ Toy stuffing ★ Thread



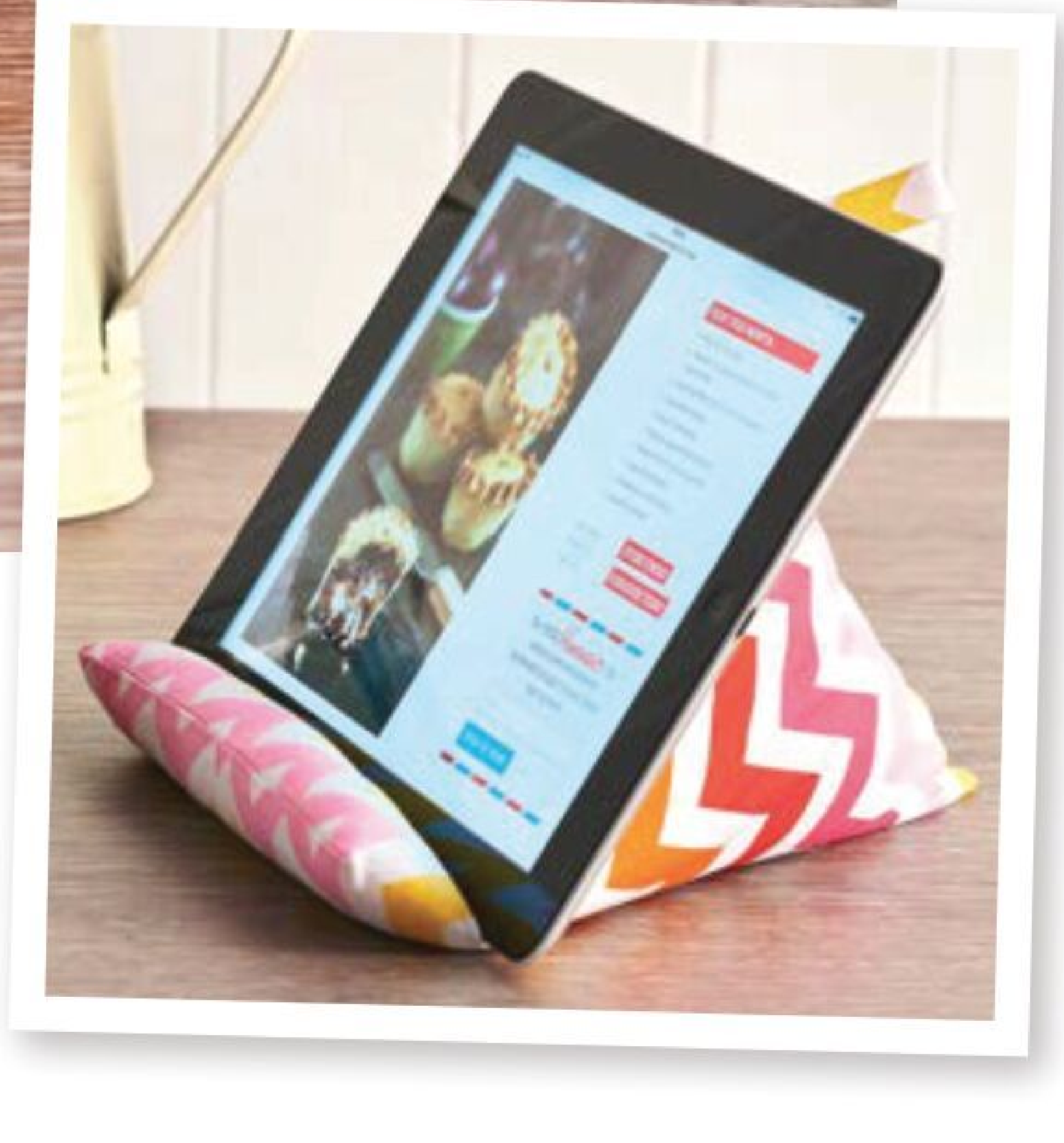
1 With right sides togther, fold the loop fabric along its length and stitch together down one edge using a 1cm seam allowance. Finish stitching 2cm from one end. Bring right side out, move the seam to the centre and press. Fold in half to make a loop.

2 Take the large piece of fabric and, with right sides facing, fold in half widthways. Position the fabric with the fold down the left edge and the 25cm selvedge to the right. Sandwich the loop in between the layers at the top left hand corner, with the loop facing inwards. Leaving a 1cm seam allowance, stitch along the top edge to trap the loop. Sew along the 25cm edge by only 8cm, leave a 9cm gap, then stitch the remaining 8cm. Leave the last edges unstitched.

3 Take the corners of these open edges and move the fold to the centre to create a 3D triangular shape. Pin along these remaining raw edges. Rotate the piece so that the fold sits along the top, pinned edges along the side and sewn seam along the bottom. Stitch the pinned edges using a 1cm seam allowance and turn right side out.

4 To create a ledge, measure a line across the width, 4cm up from the bottom seam. Stitch, finishing 5cm from one side. Fill this little pocket with toy stuffing before sewing across the remaining width. Stuff the rest of the triangle before slip stitching on the reverse to finish.

TOP TIP! ADD PLASTIC PELLETS TO THE BASE BEFORE YOU FILL THE HOLDER WITH STUFFING, IF YOU PREFER IT TO HAVE A LITTLE WEIGHT TO IT



DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Doggy mascot

Show someone just how much you care with this adorable fabric pooch and complementary card

KIT LIST

- Cotton: sketch print, plain pink; Liberty Tana Lawn
- Toy stuffing
- Small buttons, two
- Pink ribbon
- Glitter tape
- Card
- Foam tape
- Patterned paper

Toy size: 10cm x 20cm

DOG CARD

1 Create a matching greeting by appliquéing fabric onto card and machine sewing around the shapes. Mount the pieces with 3D foam pads onto patterned paper and add glitter tape.

DOG TOY

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download and print the templates. Cut a muzzle, ears, face, thighs, bodies, back feet and body gusset from sketch print fabric. From Liberty print, cut a nose, ears, inside front legs, hind legs and tail pieces.

2 Pin a pair of sketch and Liberty print ears right sides together. Stitch around the edge using a 5mm seam allowance, leaving the short straight edge open. Clip the curves and across the corners, and turn out. Repeat for the second ear. Press and set aside. Pin the two tail pieces right sides together and stitch leaving the bottom edge open. Clip the curves and turn out. Lightly stuff the top half and sew across the opening. Set aside.

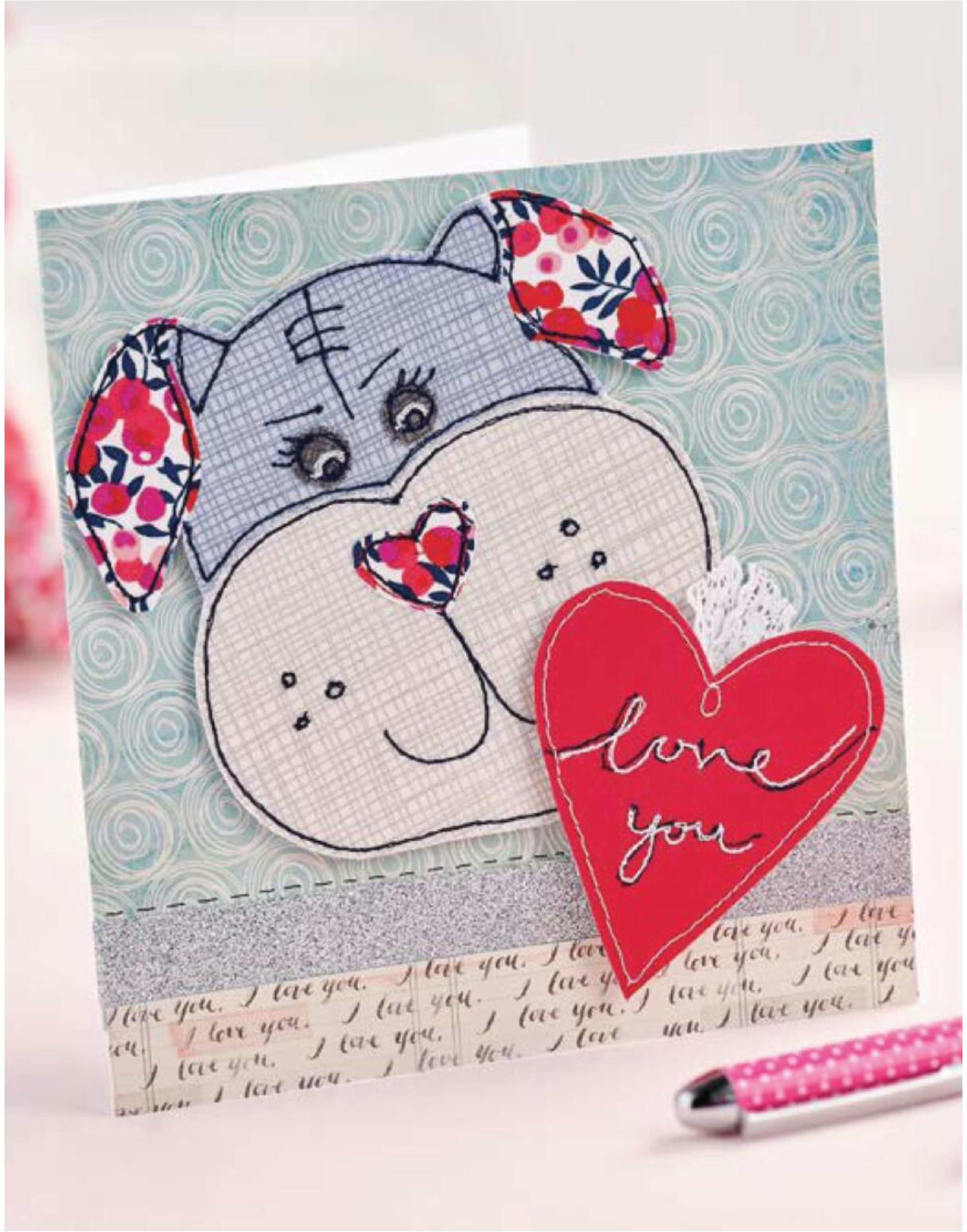
3 Fold one side of the head right sides together from the point of the ear dart so both sides match up. Take a completed ear and with the lining side down, pin it in between the folded dart sides so all raw edges match. Stitch in place. Repeat for the other side of the head.

4 Stitch up the small darts on the head by folding right sides together and sewing as before. Pin and stitch the two head sides, right sides together, from the corner with the eye placement, anti-clockwise around the curve to the back of the head. Take care not to catch the ears in the seam. Turn out.

5 Pin the long straight edge of the muzzle right sides together across the raw edge on the head from corner to corner under where the eyes will be, and stitch. Hand sew the nose right sides together to the gap in the middle of the muzzle, carefully manipulating the fabric around the curve.

6 The 'V' shaped dart in the nose will be pointing downwards. Fold the muzzle in half, right sides together, so that the nose dart edges match. Stitch from the middle of the nose around the curved muzzle by 3.8cm.

7 Pin the body pieces right sides together down the long straight edge, leaving a gap for turning as shown on the template. Stitch the two small darts behind each front leg. Pin the hind leg right sides together with the thigh piece so that the edges marked A match up. Stitch the seam, clip the curve and open out.



8 Pin the back foot right sides together at point B on the thigh, then keep stitching across the B marked on the hind leg which is already sewn to the thigh. Pin the completed back leg right sides together with the body, so that the spot marked on the thigh matches the one on the body piece. Stitch from the spot, around the curve and up to the dart behind the front leg.

9 Fold the foot in half, right sides together, so that the curved edges match, and pin. Continue to pin along the straight edge of what is now the adjoining thigh and knee, and stitch the two edges marked C together. Repeat for the other back leg, leaving both inside out.

10 Take the pointed end of the body gusset marked tail and pin it right sides together with the bottom of the spine seam, trapping the tail in the seam. Stitch from the point up to each front leg opening.

11 Pin a Liberty print front inner leg right sides together with its corresponding outer front leg and stitch down one side, around the curved toe and back up the other side, leave the top unstitched. Repeat on the other front leg and clip the curves of the toe on each. Pin the middle seam at the back of the head right sides together with the middle seam at the top of the spine. Stitch across from one side to the other.

12 Finish joining the body gusset from the front legs, up both sides of the chest and under the muzzle with

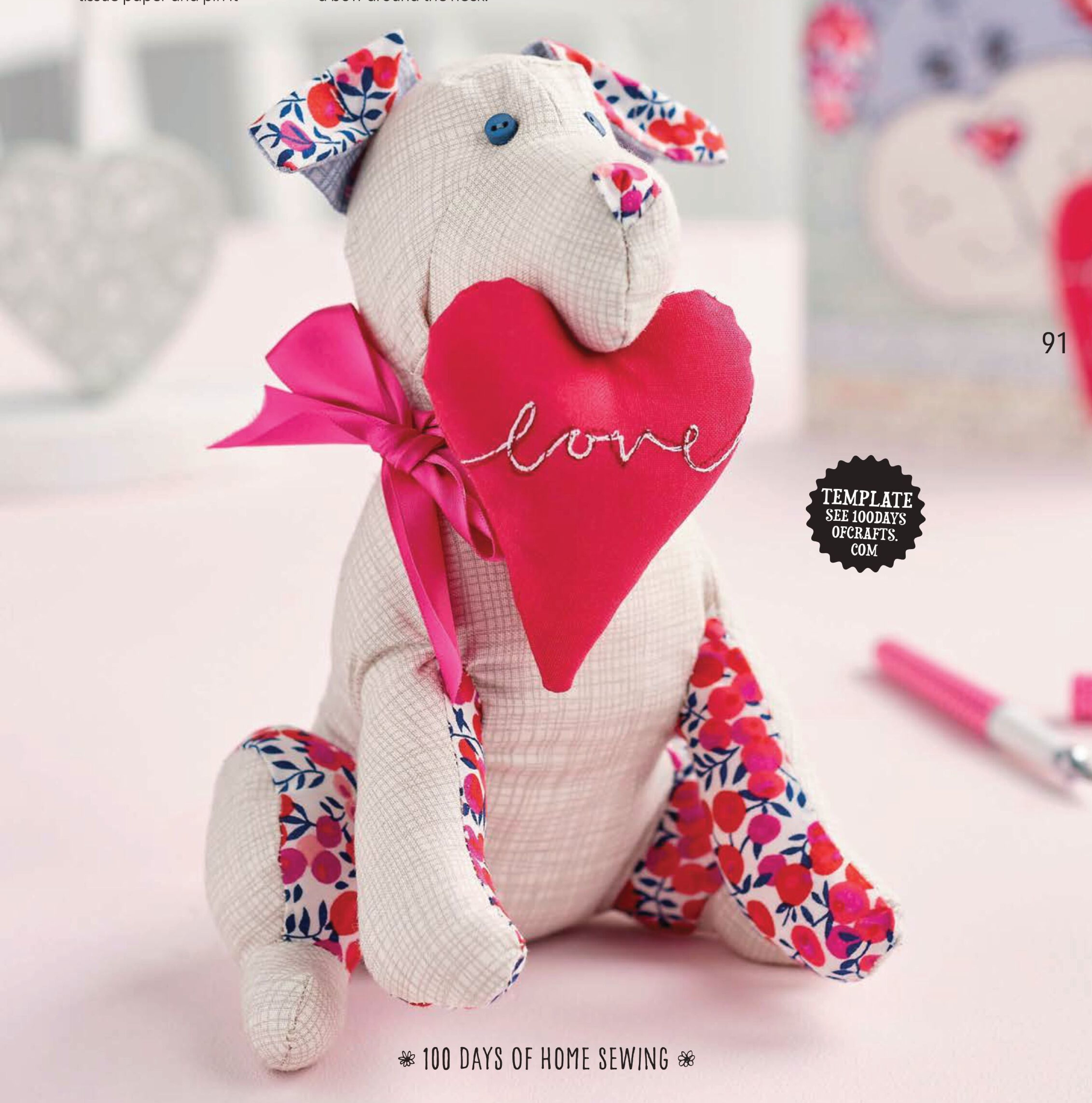
right sides together. Clip the curves and turn out by pulling it through the gap in the back. Stuff firmly and close the gap by hand. Sew two tiny buttons for eyes and catch the ears with a few hand stitches so they bend slightly.

13 To make the heart, use the template to cut two shapes from pink fabric. Trace the word onto white tissue paper and pin it across one of the hearts. Stitch over the letters by hand or machine, then tear the paper away and press.

14 Pin the two hearts right sides together and sew leaving a gap for turning as shown on the template. Clip the curves and turn out. Stuff firmly and close the gap by hand. Sew the heart just under the muzzle and tie ribbon in a bow around the neck.

TOP TIP! THIS PLUSH PUP COULD BE A PAPERWEIGHT IF YOU FILL IT WITH PLASTIC PELLETS OR DRIED RICE

MAKE ME LOVE ME



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Harriet hare

She's easy to stitch and shaped to perch on a shelf when she's not attending tea parties in her party frock

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: four prints, fat quarter of each; lining, scrap ★ Wadding ★ Thread: sewing; embroidery ★ Fibre filling ★ Yarn, white ★ Lace, white ★ Beads, small, black, two ★ Buttons, 1.5cm, two ★ Snap fasteners, small

Size: 14cm x 60cm

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

HARRIET HARE

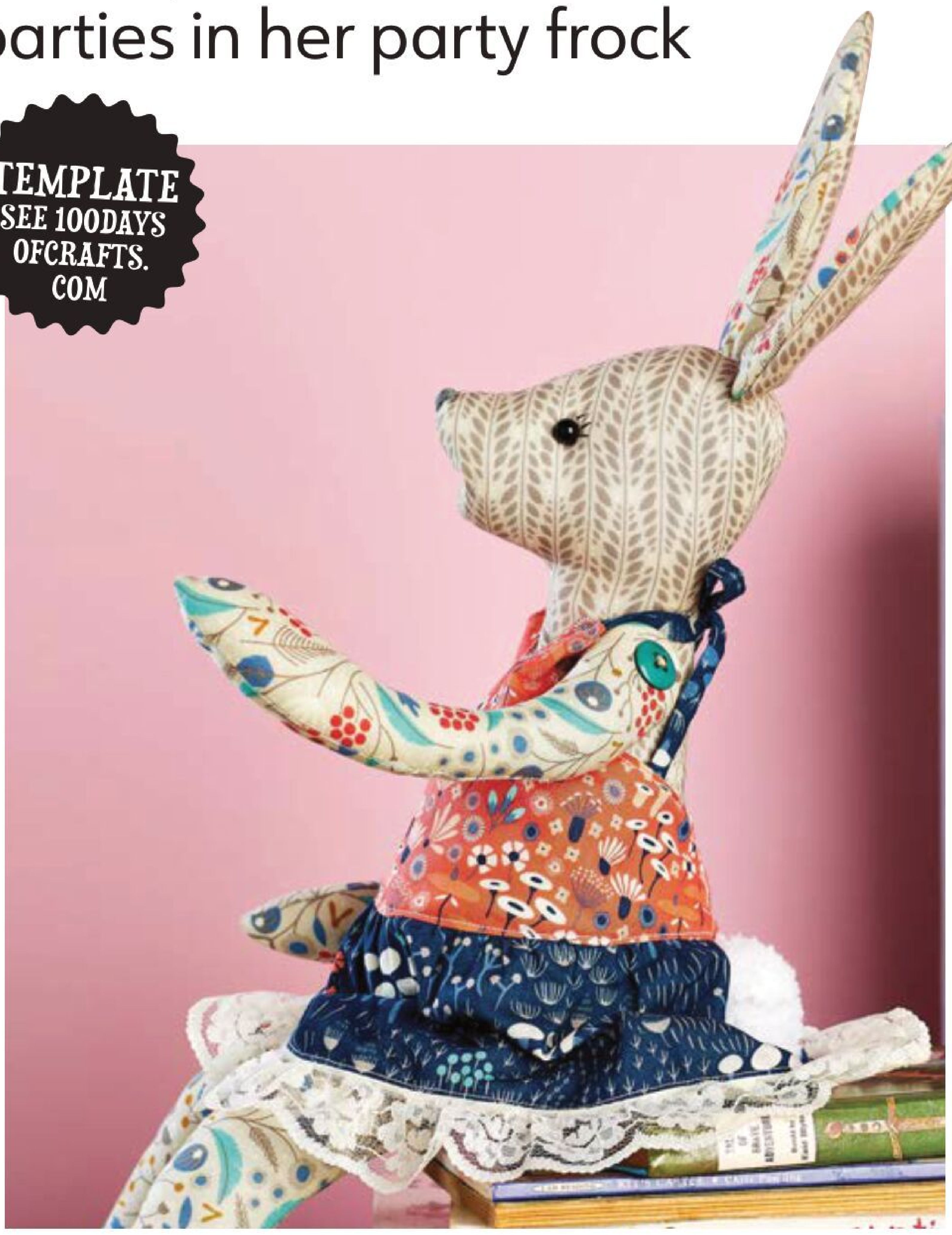
1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download and print the templates. Add a 5mm seam allowance to all. Cut two ears from lightly patterned fabric and two more from another print. Pair them up, right sides together, and pin onto quilt wadding. Stitch around the edges through all three layers, leaving the end open for turning. Trim the wadding close to the seam, before turning the ears out and finger-pressing the seams. Make a pleat in the bottom edge of the ear and tack.

2 Cut two bodies from fabric. Clip the bottom dart, fold in 5mm on each straight edge and tack down. Place the pleated end of one ear against one straight edge of the dart in the top of the head and fold the head fabric over to sandwich it. Stitch along the straight edge to secure the ear. Repeat for the other body piece. Pin the two body pieces right sides together and stitch around the edge leaving a gap at the bottom darts and along the back seam. Take care not to trap the ears as you sew. Clip the curves and turn out through a gap.

3 Cut four leg pieces from patterned fabric. Pair up right sides together and sew around each one, leaving a gap at the top edge. Clip the curves, turn out and stuff firmly. Flatten the top of the leg so the front and back seams touch and tack closed. Insert the tacked end of each leg into the gap formed by the hemmed darts at the bottom of the body. Pin the hemmed edges to the legs and oversew to hold them in place. Stitch up any remaining space between the legs.

4 Cut four arm pieces from the same patterned fabric as the legs. Pair up right sides together and stitch around the outside, leaving a gap along the back of the arm. Clip the curves, turn out and firmly stuff. Fold in the edges of the gap and slip stitch closed. Stuff the head and body of the hare, fold in the raw edges of the gap and close.

5 Pin the arms to either side of the body and attach with a button joint. To do this, take a long needle and a length of embroidery thread. Knot the end and pass through the top of one arm, horizontally through the body and through the top of the other arm. Thread through two holes of a button and pass back through the arms and body in the opposite direction. Place a second button on the thread and stitch back through. Continue passing the thread through both buttons, both arms and the body, pulling fairly taut as you do so. When happy with the joint, fasten off the thread.



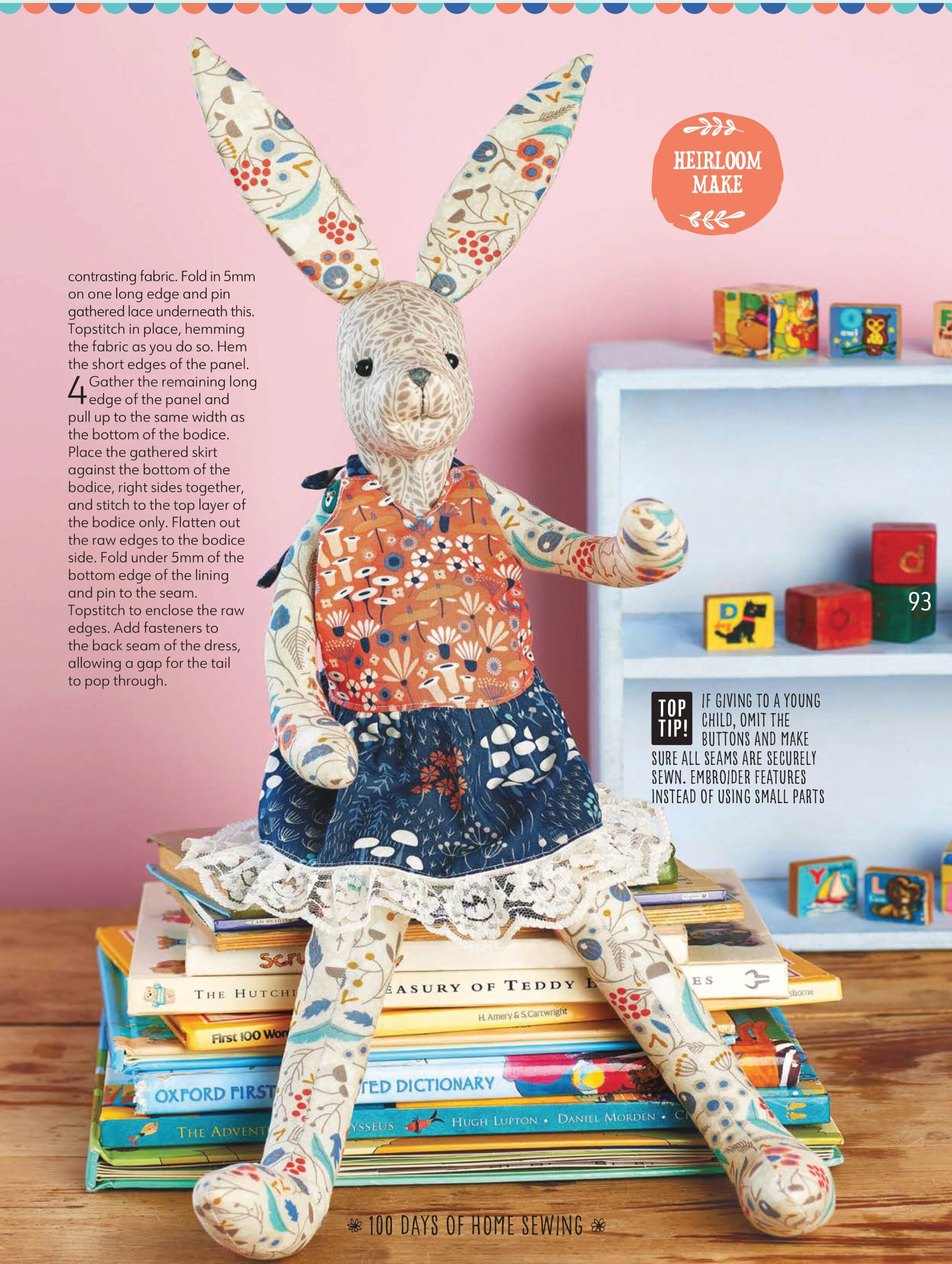
6 Embroider a neat nose with satin stitch and add a vertical line of back stitch. Gently push the head in with your finger just below the nose to form a mouth. Hold this indentation in place by stitching from the centre of the dent, through the head and out to the side of the face. Add a small black bead and sew back through the head to the other side, add a second bead and sew back to the mouth. Repeat this pattern of stitching several times, pulling the thread fairly taut as you do so to sculpt the face. Pass the needle up through the embroidered nose and fasten under the satin stitches to hide the end. Create a small white pom-pom and attach it to the back of the hare as a tail.

DRESS

1 Cut two bodice pieces on folded fabric, one from print, one from plain cotton for the lining. Sew together with right sides facing, leaving the bottom edge and shoulders unsewn. Clip the curves and turn out. Finger-press the seams.

2 Cut two 2cm x 20cm strips of contrasting fabric. Fold in half lengthways and sew down the long edge and across the bottom. Turn out using a knitting needle to make two pieces of piping. Fold in the raw edge of the shoulders and insert the raw ends of the piping. Pin in place.

3 Topstitch the bodice 2mm from the edges, securing the piping straps as you do so. Do not sew along the bottom edge. Cut 10cm x 50cm of



HEIRLOOM MAKE

contrasting fabric. Fold in 5mm on one long edge and pin gathered lace underneath this. Topstitch in place, hemming the fabric as you do so. Hem the short edges of the panel.

4 Gather the remaining long edge of the panel and pull up to the same width as the bottom of the bodice. Place the gathered skirt against the bottom of the bodice, right sides together, and stitch to the top layer of the bodice only. Flatten out the raw edges to the bodice side. Fold under 5mm of the bottom edge of the lining and pin to the seam. Topstitch to enclose the raw edges. Add fasteners to the back seam of the dress, allowing a gap for the tail to pop through.

TOP TIP! IF GIVING TO A YOUNG CHILD, OMIT THE BUTTONS AND MAKE SURE ALL SEAMS ARE SECURELY SEWN. EMBROIDER FEATURES INSTEAD OF USING SMALL PARTS

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Owl bookends

This wise duo feels most at home when perched on a bookshelf keeping tomes upright

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, Art Gallery Fabrics' Emmy Grace collection ★ Felt ★ Sewing and embroidery thread ★ Buttons ★ Fibre filling ★ Sand ★ Sandwich bags, small

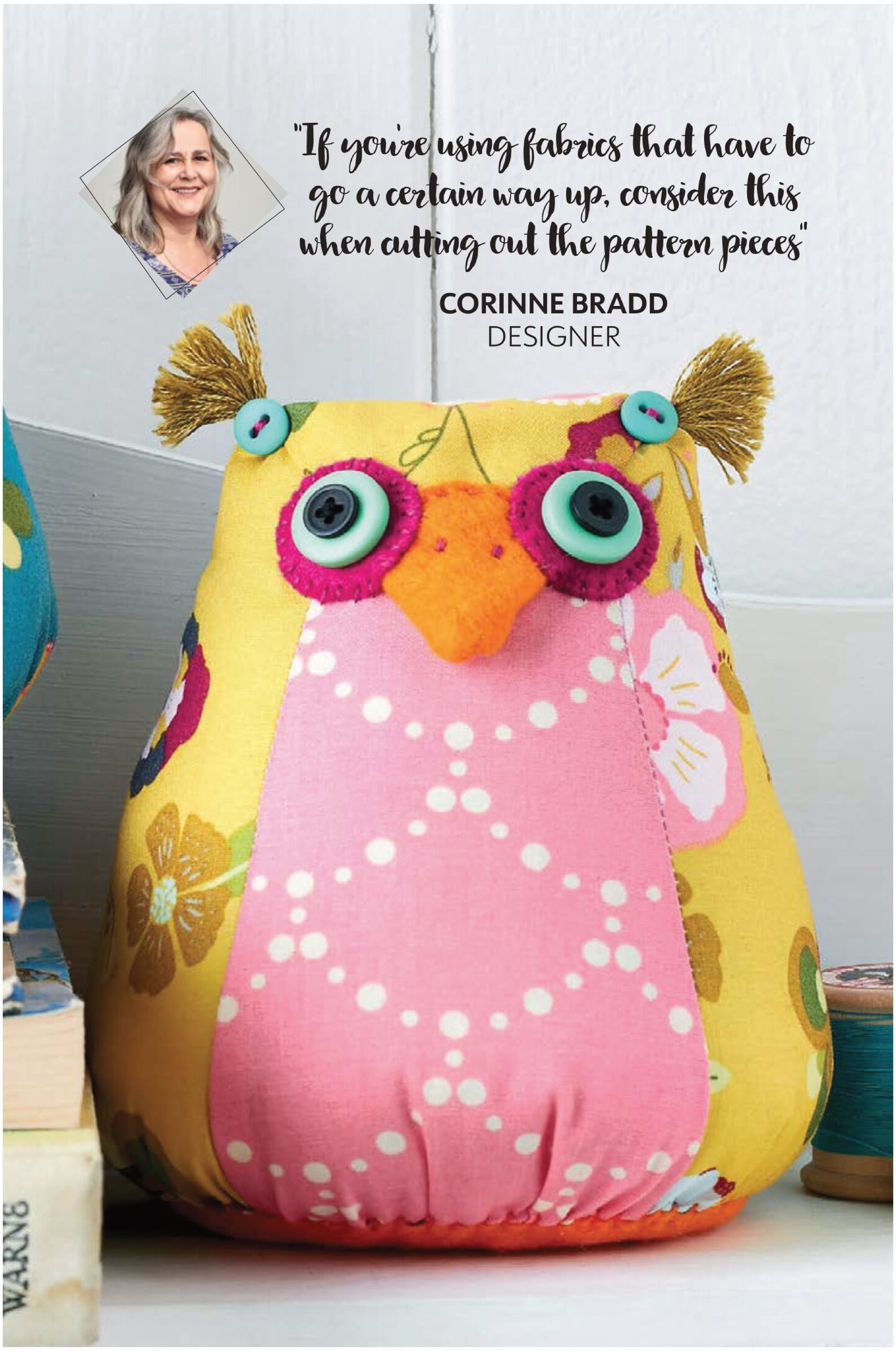
1 Use the templates at 100daysofcrafts.com to cut a main body from printed cotton and a body segment from a contrasting design. Trim a beak from felt and stitch to the right side of the main body, as indicated on pattern.

2 Sew the straight edges of the body segment to the straight edges of the main body, right sides together with a 5mm seam allowance. Turn right side out and use a blunt point to fully push out the beak.

3 Flatten the cone so the segment sits centrally and fold over 5cm of the point. Sew running stitch along this fold line. Stuff the rest of the cone with fibre filling, adding a weighted plastic bag of sand to the centre of the filling.

4 Gather the edge of the cone with running stitch and pull up to make the hole about 7cm across. Add more filling if necessary, before covering the hole with an oval of felt. Oversew in place.

5 Make eyes from circles of felt topped with buttons, then sew either side of the beak. Create two small tassels from embroidery thread and stitch the ends under the fold at either side of the head, placing small buttons over the tips to cover the stitching.



> "If you're using fabrics that have to go a certain way up, consider this when cutting out the pattern pieces"
>
> **CORINNE BRADD**
> DESIGNER

MAKE TODAY GIFT TOMORROW

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

DESIGNER **CHLOE HAILWOOD**

Seaside decs

Reminisce of carefree days spent by the ocean with these charming designs that can be filled with dried lavender

KIT LIST

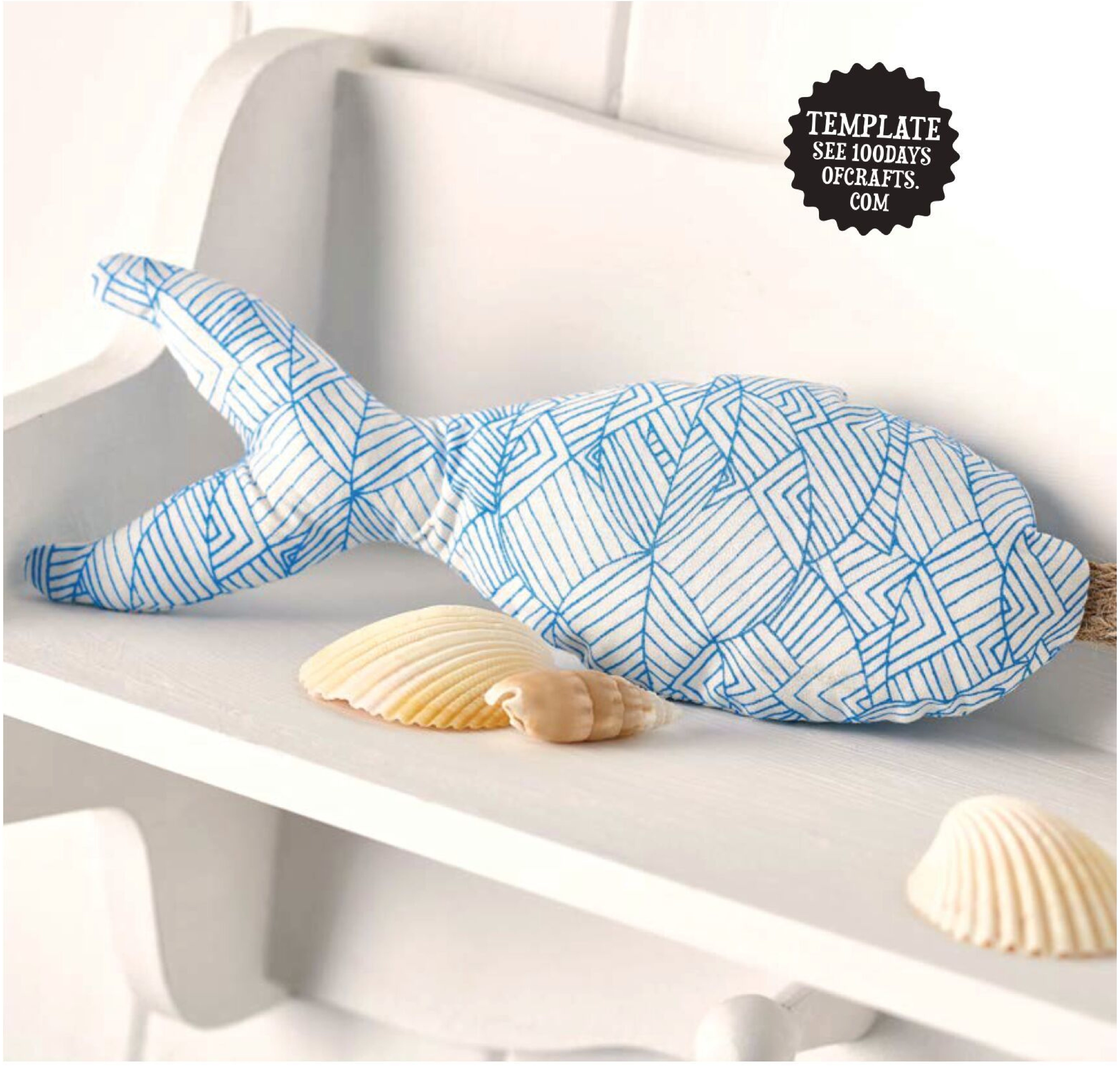
- ★ Fabric, linen canvas, cotton ★ Hessian ribbon
- ★ Twine ★ Medium weight fusible interfacing, 50cm
- ★ Toy stuffing, 50g
- ★ Dried lavender, 100g
- ★ Matching threads
- ★ Sewing needle

NB: use 5mm seam allowance

Size: fish: 9cm x 24cm; starfish: 22cm x 25cm; boat: 14cm x 17cm; anchor: 14cm x 24cm

CUTTING GUIDE

- ★ **Starfish:** cotton, 25cm x 45cm, twine, 25cm
- ★ **Boat:** linen, 30cm x 35cm, twine, 50cm
- ★ **Fish:** cotton, 20cm x 25cm, hessian ribbon, 25cm
- ★ **Anchor:** cotton, 30cm x 50cm, hessian ribbon, 25cm



TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

1 Download the templates at 100daysofcrafts.com. Press the interfacing to the reverse of all fabrics. Mark and cut out two fish from the templates on the reverse of one fabric and two anchors on the reverse of another. For the starfish use both templates on another fabric. For the boat, mark and cut out all four sails from the templates supplied and two of the same boats.

2 Starting with the fish, pin both pieces together with right sides facing. Fold the ribbon in half and place at the tip of the fish, with the loop pointing inwards, between the two layers of fabric. Pin in place and stitch around the entire fish, leaving a 4cm gap on one side of the body. Make small snips in the seam allowance around the base and curve of the tail, taking care not to cut the stitches. Turn inside out through the gap and fill with some toy stuffing, then top up with dried lavender.

3 Make the anchor and starfish in the same way, cutting small snips in the seam allowance at the curves and all corners.

4 To sew the boat, make each component separately, placing two matching sails or boat pieces together with right sides facing. Stitch around before filling with a mixture of toy stuffing and dried lavender. Add a string loop in between the layers at the top of the boat, at the point where the sails will meet. Tie some loose knots in the loop end of the string, whilst sewing the boats together to keep the string from being caught in the stitches.

5 Arrange the sails to sit on top of the boat and stitch at the sail corners to attach to the boat and string. Use small stitches, then wrap the thread round the stitches a few times before securing the thread to finish.

WHY NOT TRY...

For a different aroma, try filling with dried petals such as lemon balm, jasmine, scented rose or ylang-ylang, dried leaves of rosemary, thyme or mint, or spices such as cloves

RESCUE YOUR REMNANTS

TOP TIP! NAUTICAL PRINTS OR FABRICS IN SAND AND SEA COLOURS LOOK GOOD ON THESE DECS

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

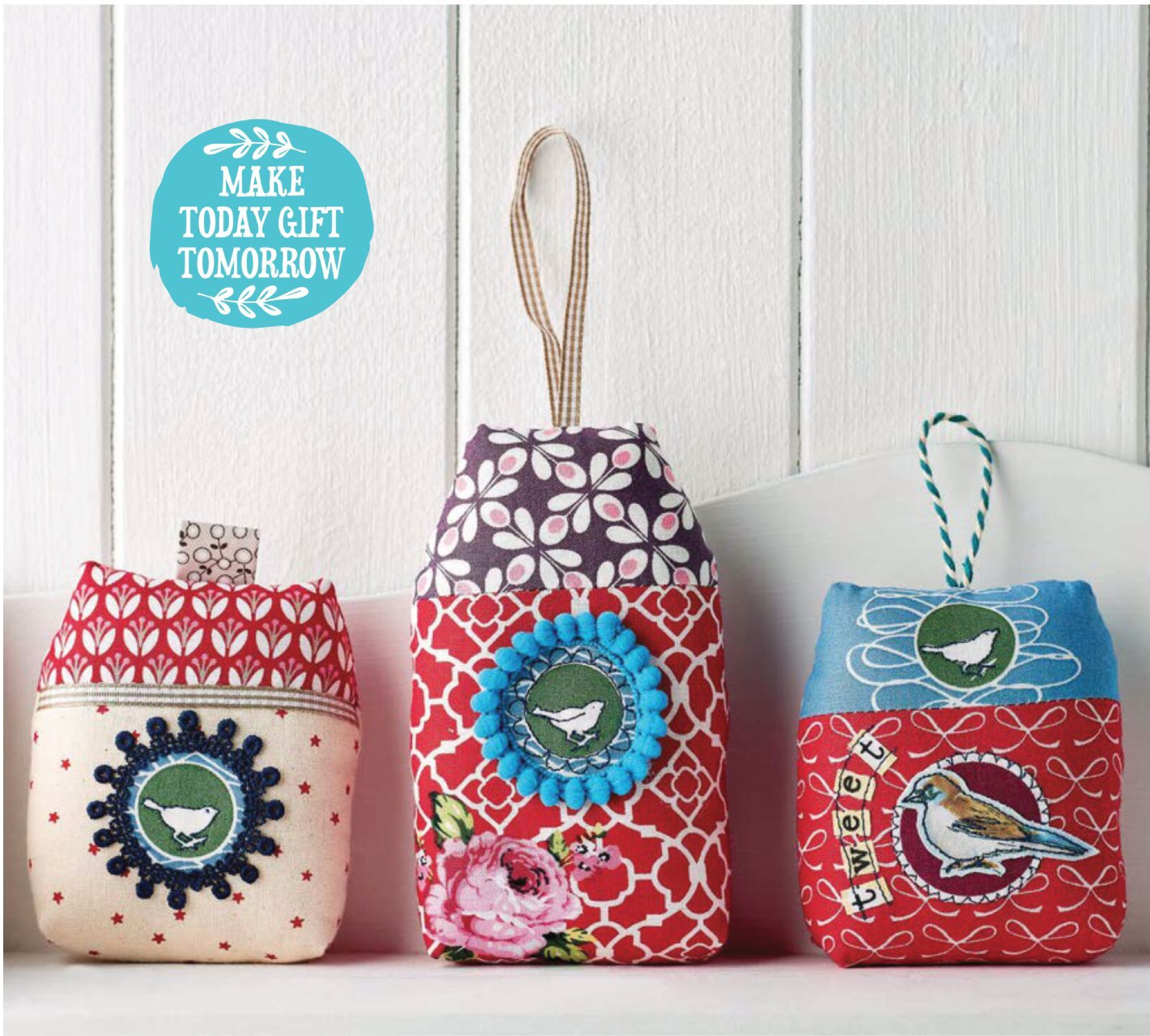
Birdhouse decs

These bright and cheery pomanders and hoops are great gift ideas for someone who is moving home

KIT LIST

- Fabric: assorted prints: calico, star; cotton, bird print
- Wadding
- Trims, assorted
- Embroidery hoops: 3"; 5"
- Interfacing, fusible
- Threads, assorted
- Glue stick, acid-free
- Baker's twine

Home hoop: 5"; Early bird hoop: 3"; Tweet birdhouse: 8cm x 10cm



HOME HOOP

1 Download the template at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut a 20cm square from cream calico fabric. Using the template, cut out the birdhouse and tree branch from patterned fabrics and back with interfacing. Cut out two large flowers from floral fabric and interface.

2 Temporarily place the outer part of a 5" embroidery hoop onto the middle of the calico. Arrange the pieces as shown, except for the large flowers, and pin in place. Use navy thread to secure the birdhouse roof and to add a decorative scallop pattern. Secure the house with red, and use dark brown for the branch. Add a couple of tiny flowers to the top of the roof.

3 Cut a large purple dot from spotty fabric and secure to the middle of the birdhouse with acid-free glue, stitch in navy, adding a scallop shaped decoration. Cut a printed bird circle keeping in tact the white outline. Back with interfacing and place in the centre of the purple, as shown. Stitch around the bird in navy thread.

4 Lay the hoop on top of the picture again and place the large flower at the bottom, stick securely with acid-free glue, allow to dry and use pink and green thread to add detail. Cut a couple of tiny flower motifs and two leaves and stitch to the top branch.

5 Trace *home* from the template onto tissue paper, pin in place and stitch over it twice in navy thread. Iron on the reverse. Remove the tracing paper, mount into the hoop, pulling the fabric taut and tighten the screw. Trim away all the excess fabric from the back.

6 Use pink and green thread to add detail to the last remaining flower. Cut out and secure with acid-free glue so that it overhangs the hoop edge to finish.

EARLY BIRD HOOP

1 Cut a 14cm square of calico. Trim an 8cm x 14cm section of red patterned fabric, back with interfacing, then lay across the calico a third of the way up. Stitch across the raw edge. Cut a bird from printed fabric, several leaves and a small flower bud and back with interfacing.

2 Place the outer part of a 3" embroidery hoop onto the fabric square and pin the bird, leaves and flower in place. Stitch the bird using navy thread and the leaves and flower in pink and green. Using the template, trace *early bird* onto tissue and stitch in navy thread. Iron on the reverse. Mount the finished picture and trim away the excess fabric to finish.

HANGING BIRDHOUSE

1 Use the template provided to cut out two houses from the red bow print. Cut out two standard roofs from grey fabric, ensuring a white printed bird is in the middle of each. Using a 5mm seam allowance, stitch each roof to a house, pinning right sides together first. Iron the seam open and set one aside.

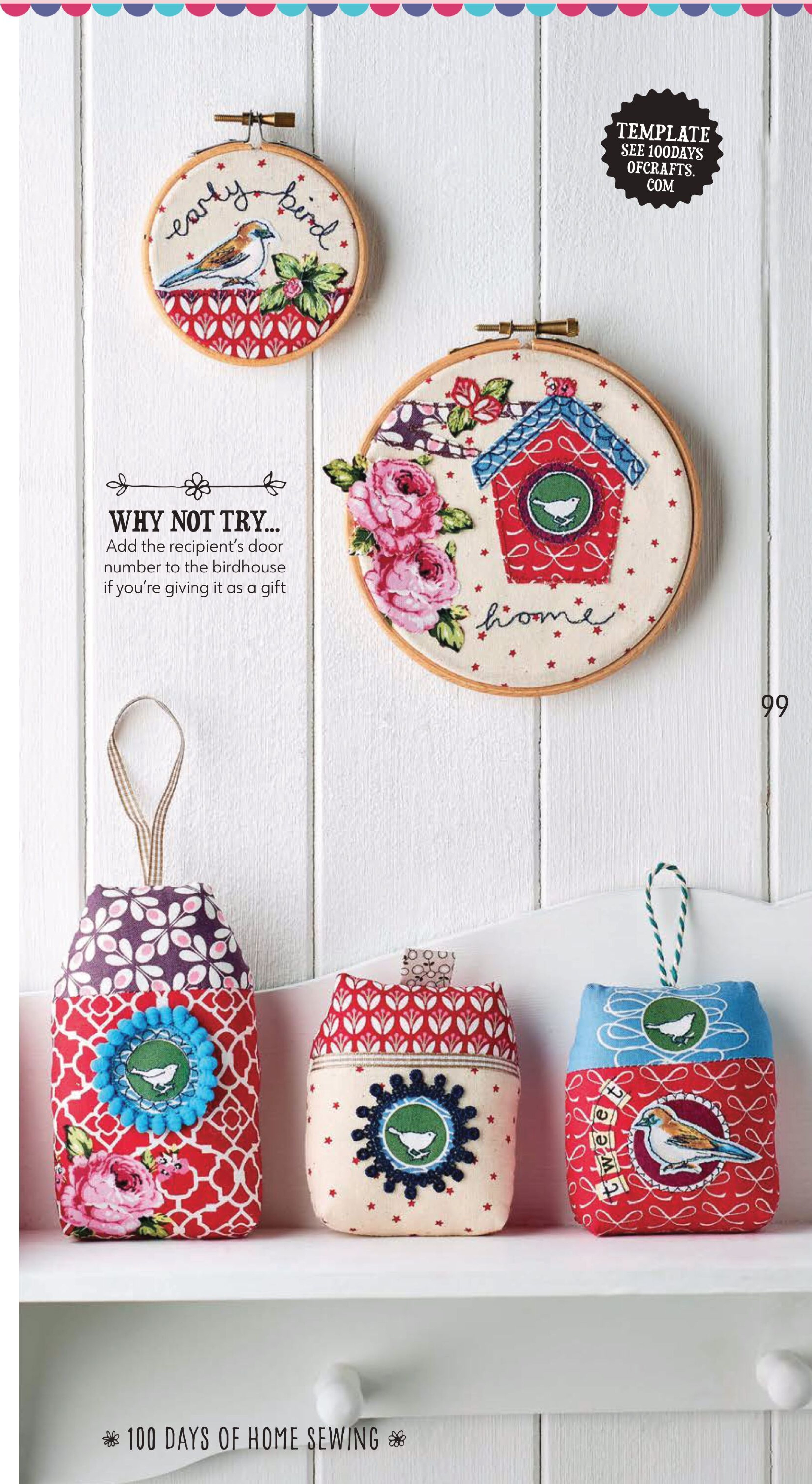
2 Cut a large purple circle with a small border of white and secure to the middle of the red house front 1cm from the roof line. Stitch a scallop pattern in navy thread around the edge to secure. Cut out a bird from fabric, back with interfacing and use navy thread to stitch it as shown.

3 Cut out fabric letters or create your own, interface, arrange as shown and catch each within two lines of navy stitching. Embroider around the white roof bird in navy and iron on the reverse.

4 Place the front and back of the birdhouse right sides together and pin, trapping a loop of baker's twine in the top with the raw ends sticking out. Stitch with a 0.5cm seam allowance from point A around to point B, leaving a small gap for turning, then sew from point C down to point D, and from point E across to point F. Trim the excess fabric from across the roof corners.

5 To make the base of the house 3D, push point D to meet point E and stitch across to hold in place, then point F to meet point A in the same way. Turn right side out. Stuff firmly with wadding and close the gap by hand stitching.

TOP TIP! TO HELP THE BIRDHOUSE STAND ON A SHELF, FILL THE BOTTOM WITH DRIED RICE TO GIVE IT WEIGHT



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

WHY NOT TRY...

Add the recipient's door number to the birdhouse if you're giving it as a gift

DESIGNER **CAROLYN LETTEN**

Nautical set

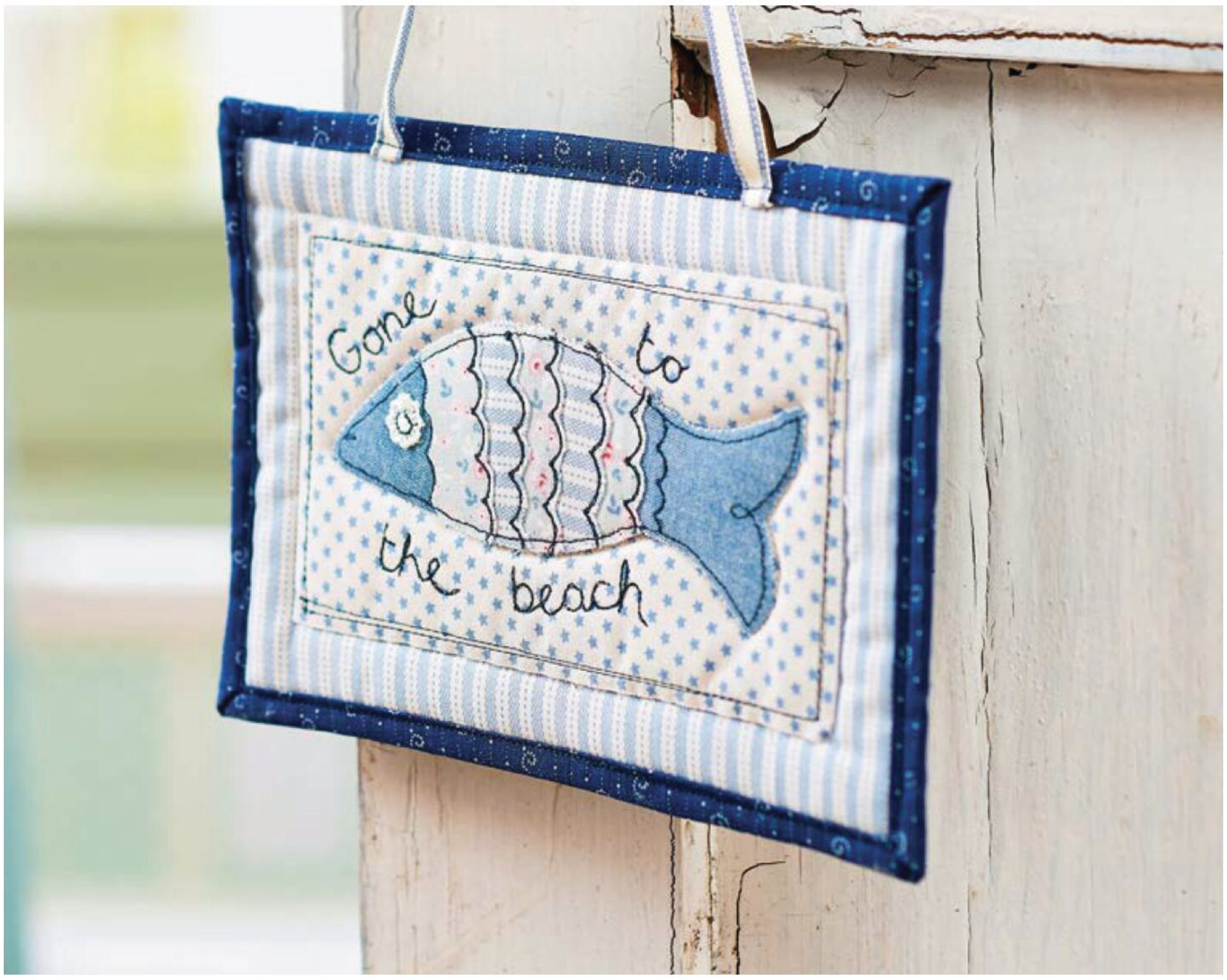
TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

Bring seaside style to your home with these shabby chic home accessories

KIT LIST

- Fabric: Tilda, Seaside Life charm pack; chambray; navy print; lace; net, silver; yellow print; cream print, scraps of each
- Fibre filling
- Wadding, 14cm x 21cm
- Interfacing, fusible
- Ribbon, striped, 33cm
- Buttons, two
- Thread, sewing: navy; cream
- Glue stick, acid-free
- Small stones or rice

Doorstop: 17cm x 23cm; sign: 14.5cm x 21cm



DOORSTOP

1 Cut 19cm x 24.5cm of floral fabric and back it with fusible interfacing. Go to 100daysofcrafts.com and download the templates, then cut out all the appliqué pieces onto the various printed fabrics and arrange them as pictured; sparingly use acid-free glue stick to hold the elements in place if preferred, but remember to let it dry before sewing.

2 Stitch in place using navy thread. For the top of the lighthouse, add a plain cream arch, followed by a smaller piece of yellow material, then top both with silver net fabric. Add cotton lace to the large cloud and two buttons to the lighthouse windows.

3 Create two side panels in striped fabric measuring 10cm x 24.5cm and stitch each one to either side of the lighthouse panel, right sides facing and using a 1cm seam allowance. Cut a back piece from the same fabric, then stitch it to one of the side panels in the same way. Iron all seams and top stitch.

4 Cut two 10cm x 19cm panels from the striped fabric for the top and bottom. From blue floral fabric, cut a 5cm x 50cm handle and back with interfacing. Fold it in half wrong sides facing and turn the raw edges in, then sew along both sides and down the middle using navy thread. Stitch the ends to what will be the top panel.

5 To sew the doorstop together, start by stitching the top panel onto the front, right sides together, then carefully work your way around, attaching it to the sides and back. Top stitch the seams and sew to close the side seam. Repeat this for the bottom panel leaving one end open for turning.

6 Turn right side out and firmly fill with toy stuffing, making sure to avoid lumps and bumps. Sew a fabric bag slightly smaller than the bottom of the doorstop and fill it with small stones or rice for weight. Stitch it closed and place inside. Close the opening to finish.

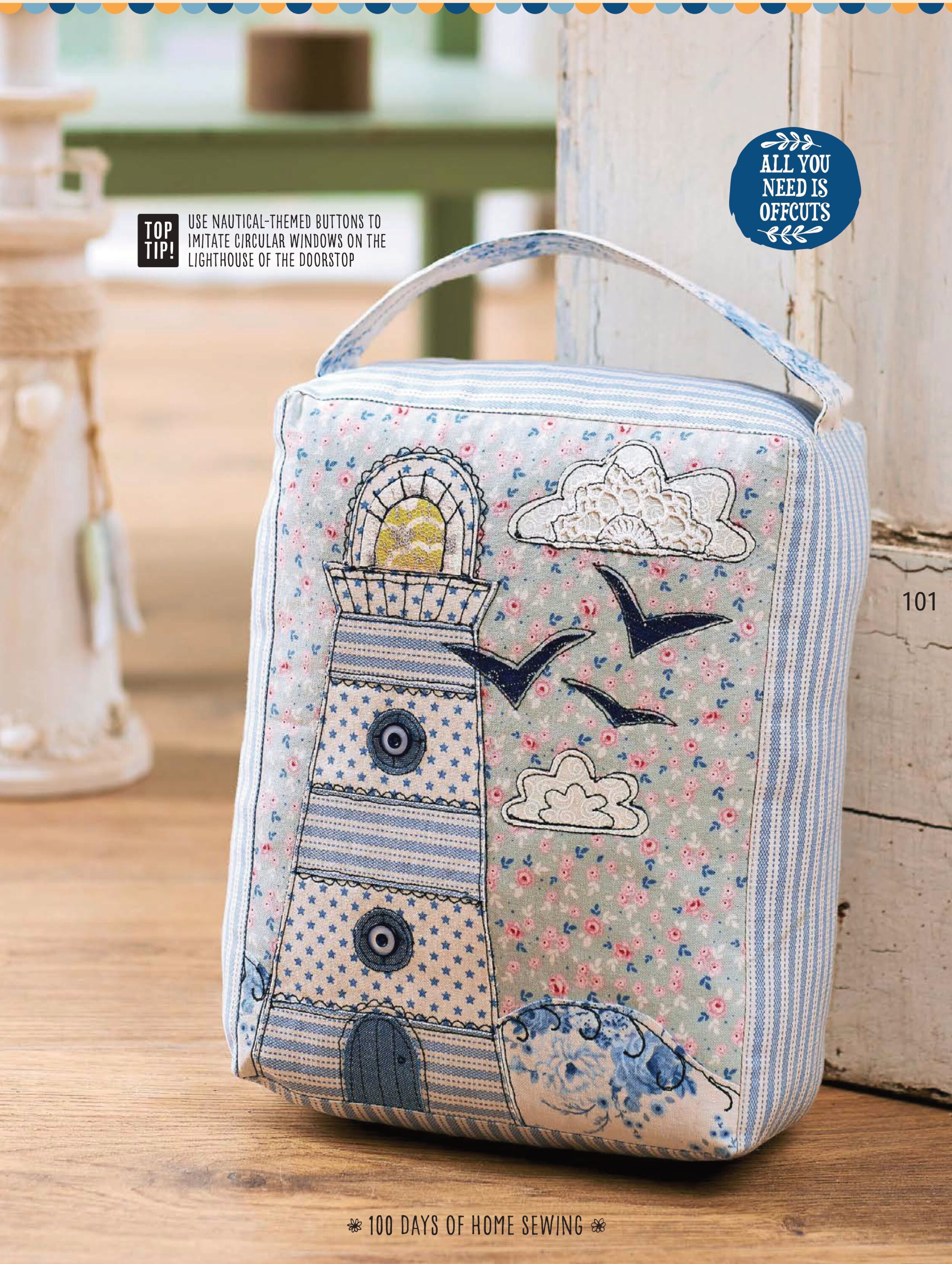
HANGING SIGN

1 Cut a 14cm x 21cm piece of striped fabric and stitch a 9.5cm x 16cm piece of star print fabric in the centre. Set aside.

2 For the fish, cut a 7cm x 13cm piece of interfacing, then iron small rectangles of floral and stripe fabric onto it. In navy thread, stitch a scallop shape down the right hand side of each fabric scrap, then trim each one close to the stitching.

3 Cut out a fish in chambray and lay it onto the star fabric, arrange the fish scales as shown, then stitch down. Sew an eye using a scrap of lace and stitch the words *Gone to the beach*. Iron on the reverse.

4 Trim 18cm x 24cm of wadding and dark blue backing fabric. Lay the backing wrong side up, followed by the wadding, then the front right side up and pin. Turn the backing piece over twice by 5mm onto the front and pin, taking care to mitre the corners. Sew all the way round, catching a piece of ribbon at the top to hang. Stitch around the fish and star fabric to finish.



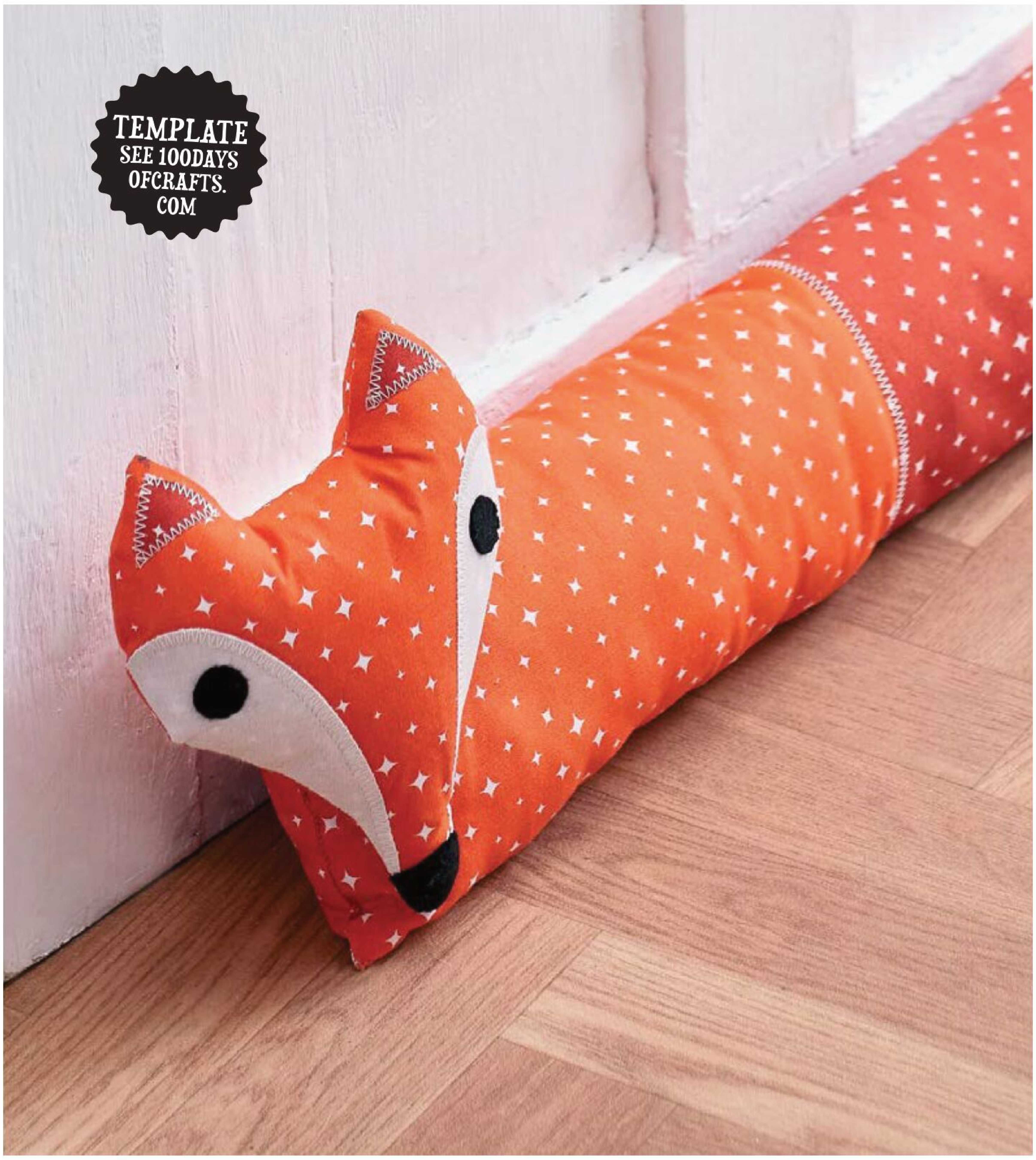
TOP TIP! USE NAUTICAL-THEMED BUTTONS TO IMITATE CIRCULAR WINDOWS ON THE LIGHTHOUSE OF THE DOORSTOP

ALL YOU NEED IS OFFCUTS

DESIGNER **LOUISE NICHOLS**

Fox draught excluder

Our friendly fox will keep any chills at bay, and what's more he can be whipped up in just a couple of hours!



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, orange, beige, rust ★ Iron-on interfacing, medium-weight ★ Sewing thread, cream, black, coordinating ★ Felt, black ★ Fusible webbing

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download and print the templates. Cut a 16cm x 20cm piece of iron-on interfacing and iron onto the reverse of orange fabric. Using the template, cut out one face from the interfaced fabric and one from the same fabric without interfacing.

2 Trace the side sections of the face and the inner ears onto fusible webbing. Iron the side sections onto beige fabric and the inner ears onto rust fabric. Cut out, position, and iron onto the interfaced face.

3 Using a wide zig-zag stitch, machine down both inner edges of the side sections and around the edges of the inner ears. Using the template as a guide, cut out two eyes and a nose from black felt, and hand sew into place around the edge using black thread.

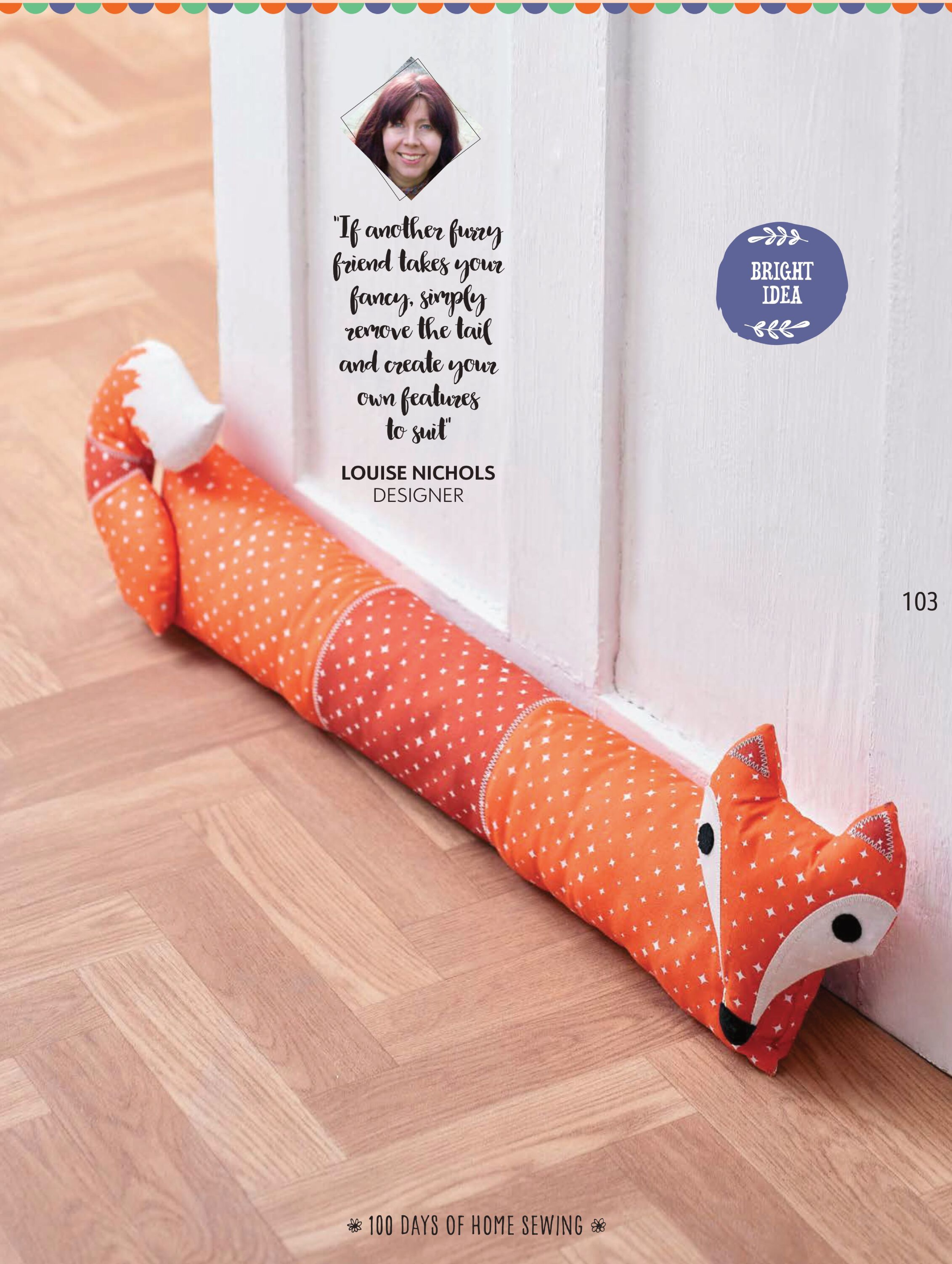
4 Place the two face sections, with wrong sides together, and machine around the edge, leaving a 7cm gap down one side for turning through. Snip and trim the seams, turn through, press, then stuff. Hand sew the gap closed using coordinating thread.

5 Cut two 20cm x 22cm pieces of interfacing and iron both pieces onto orange fabric. Using the template cut out two tails, one on the reverse. Trace two tail tips onto fusible webbing, one in reverse, then two tail middle sections, one in reverse. Iron the tail tips onto beige fabric and the tail middle sections onto rust fabric. Cut out, position and iron onto the tail pieces.

6 Using a wide zig-zag stitch, machine around the top and bottom edge of the tail middle sections and the bottom edge of the tail tips. With right sides together, pin both tail pieces and machine, leaving the bottom edge open. Turn right side out, press, stuff, then hand sew the gap closed.

7 Cut two 18cm x 75cm pieces of orange fabric. Draw two 15.5cm x 18cm rectangles onto fusible webbing and iron onto rust fabric. Cut out and position in the middle of your long pieces of orange fabric. Iron on and with your machine set to a wide zig-zag stitch, sew down both short edges.

8 Pin both body sections together and machine stitch, leaving one of the short edges open for stuffing. Snip the corners, turn through, press and stuff. Hand sew the gap closed using coordinating thread. To finish, hand sew the head and tail into position using coordinating thread.



BRIGHT IDEA

> "If another furry friend takes your fancy, simply remove the tail and create your own features to suit"

LOUISE NICHOLS
DESIGNER

DESIGNER **AMANDA WALKER**

Upcycled cosy

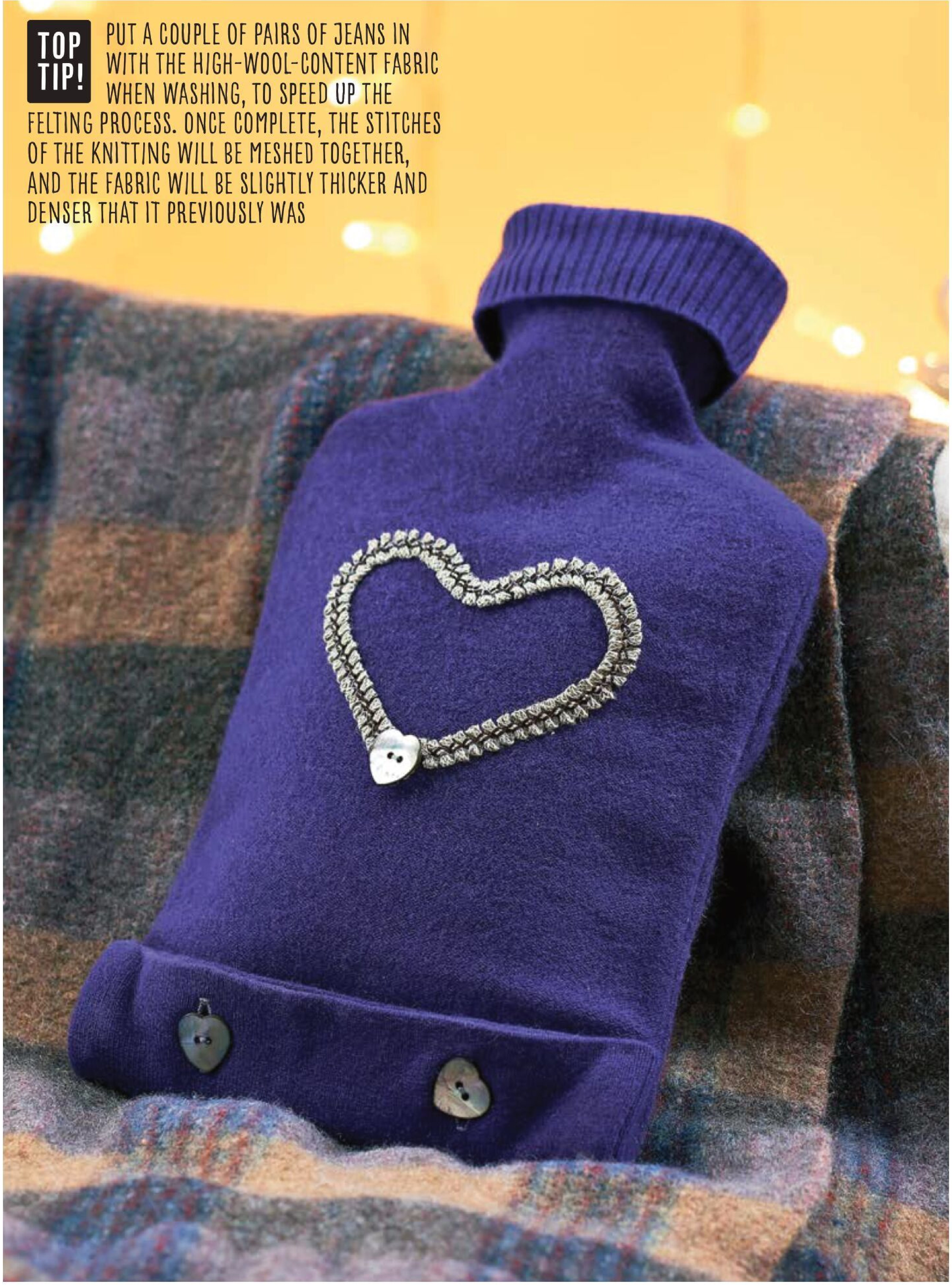
MAKE WITH mum

Follow along with us as we transform an old wool jumper into a chic hot water bottle cover

KIT LIST

★ Hot water bottle ★ Old wool-rich jumper ★ Linen braid ★ Heart-shaped shell buttons ★ Paper and pencil ★ Sewing machine and thread ★ Scissors

TOP TIP! PUT A COUPLE OF PAIRS OF JEANS IN WITH THE HIGH-WOOL-CONTENT FABRIC WHEN WASHING, TO SPEED UP THE FELTING PROCESS. ONCE COMPLETE, THE STITCHES OF THE KNITTING WILL BE MESHED TOGETHER, AND THE FABRIC WILL BE SLIGHTLY THICKER AND DENSER THAT IT PREVIOUSLY WAS



1 Wash an old cashmere jumper in boiling water, rinse then tumble dry to felt and shrink before cutting. The base of our cover utilises the hem of the jumper and the top part is the sleeve cuff.

2 Make a template for the cover by drawing around a hot water bottle onto paper. Add a 1cm seam allowance to all the edges apart from the base. Cut out and position onto the base of the jumper with the bottom of the template sitting just above the jumper's rib hem, making sure that the back and front of the hem are sitting level with each other. Pin the template and cut through both layers.

3 Separate the layers and form a length of braid into a heart shape in the centre of one. When you are happy with the shape, pin in position and zig-zag stitch the braid heart with a sewing machine. Next, make two buttonholes in the rib base edge, then do two more in the remaining hot water bottle piece in the same positions.

4 Lay the two pieces together with right sides facing and edges matching, then pin in place. Stitch down the two sides, leaving the base and the top open. Cut off one of the sleeve cuffs from the jumper and stitch this around the top of the cover.

5 Clip into the curves and then turn the cover to the right side, tease out the curves and press. Turn up the rib base of the cover and stitch two buttons to correspond with the buttonholes, then sew a button to the point of the heart. Finally, place the bottle inside the cover, fold the base up and close the cover with the buttons.

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Travel set

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

HANDY FOR HOLIDAYS

Relax and freshen up on your journey using these practical makes

KIT LIST

- ★ Assorted cottons
- ★ Pom-pom trim, three colours ★ Dried lavender
- ★ Fusible interfacing
- ★ Yellow zip, 25cm
- ★ Polystyrene beads

NB: Use a 5mm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Neck rest: 27cm x 36cm; make-up bag: 17cm x 23cm

NECK REST

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download the template. Cut two from coordinating fabric, flipping the template for the second half. Repeat for the back of the cushion. Pin each front and back pair right sides together and stitch across the short straight edge. Press the seams open and set aside.

2 For the yellow pocket, cut two from plain yellow fabric using the template. Pin them together and stitch across the straight edge. Press the seam open then fold back wrong sides together, and topstitch across the seam near the edge. Trace *sleep* onto white tissue paper, pin in place and machine or hand embroider over the letters. Tear the tissue away and iron on the reverse.

3 Make 5mm snips all the way around the curved edge, then iron the tabs onto the wrong side. Pin the pocket in place, and stitch around the curve just inside the edge, leaving the top open. Repeat for the faux pocket by cutting one piece of mint fabric and interfacing it before stitching *repeat*. Stitch all round.

4 Pin then stitch teal pom-pom trim right sides together around the right side of the black half, starting at the join and working round to the curved end. Repeat with yellow for the teal half. Pin then stitch the finished front and back right sides together, leaving a 5cm gap. Snip the curves, then turn out. Make a funnel from paper and fill with beads. Hand stitch the gap.

5 For the scented pouch, cut a strip of fabric. Add pom-pom trim to one end, stitch together leaving a gap, fill with dried lavender and close up.

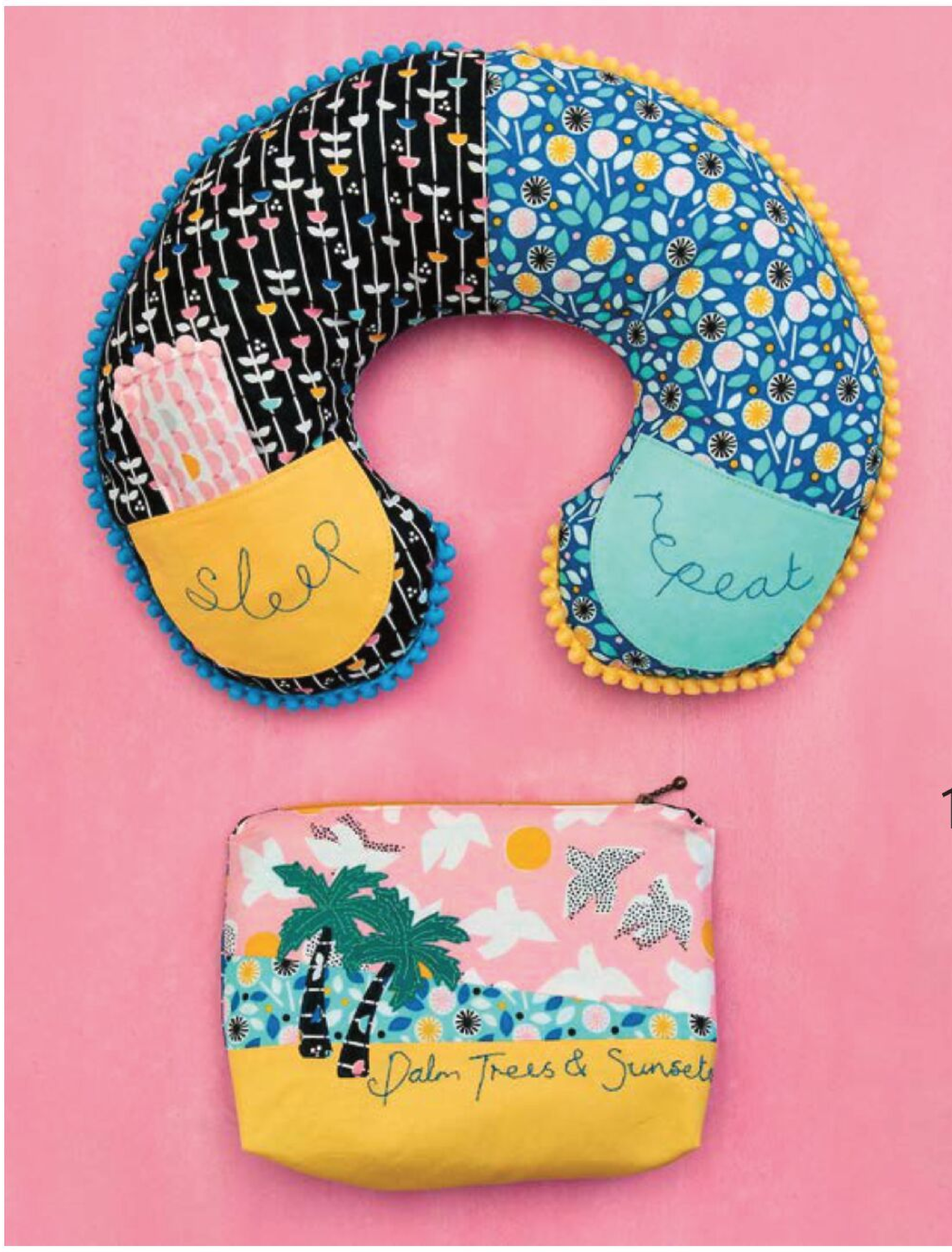
MAKE-UP BAG

1 Using the template, cut two from a plain lining fabric and fuse interfacing to both. Cut another for the back of the bag. Trim the three pieces for the front and stitch them together. Press seams open.

2 Back a piece of plain green fabric with interfacing. Use the template to draw two palm tree tops on the reverse and cut out. Back a fabric print for two tree trunks and trim. Pin them in place and machine stitch around the edges twice. Use the trace, stitch and tear method to sew *Palm Trees & Sunsets* across the bottom. Iron on the reverse.

3 Cut two tab ends for the zip 3.7cm x 11.2cm, and turn the short ends in by 5mm. Press then fold in half, bringing the short ends together and press again. Slide the zip pull into the middle of the zip and trim the metal ends from both sides to 21.2cm. Insert each end of the zip into the short open end of a fabric tab by 6mm and stitch across close to the fold edge several times to secure.

4 Lay the zip centrally, wrong side up onto the top of the front of the bag which is right side up so that the top edge of the zip is level with the raw edge. Lay lining fabric wrong side up on top so all the edges match with the zip in the middle. Pin along the top and use a zip foot to stitch. Trim away the overhang from the tabs so all edges align.



5 Fold everything back so the front of the zip and bag are facing you. Repeat for the other side by placing the zip face down onto the right side of the remaining outer piece which forms the back of the bag. Lay the last piece of lining on top right side down. Open the bag flat, right side up and press both sides close both sides of the zip.

6 Open the zip. Align all right sides together and push the edge of the zip towards the lining and match the topstitching seams. Pin in place and repeat at the other end. Pin and stitch all around the raw edges of the bag leaving corner angles unstitched and a gap of 7.5cm in one side of the lining side. Leave bag laid flat.

7 To assemble, pinch the corners of the left side of the bag together so the seams match, pin and stitch. Repeat on the other corner. Do the same to the two corners of the right-hand side. To finish, turn the bag out through the gap in the lining. Stitch the gap then push the lining inside the bag.

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Half hexagon quilt

Use an array of floral fabrics to make this classic sashed design

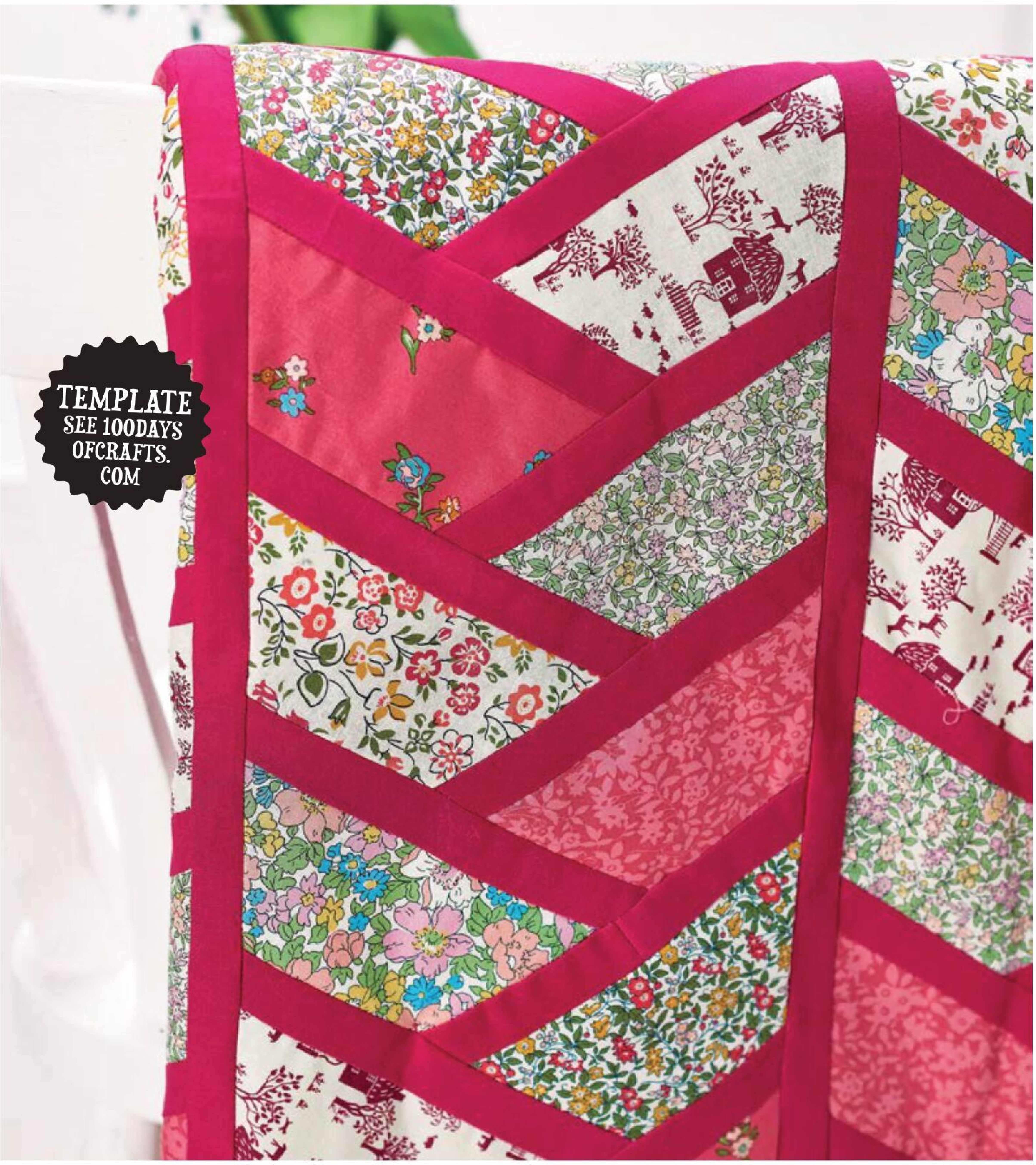
KIT LIST

★ Cotton: assorted prints, plain dark pink, white

★ 2oz quilt wadding

NB: use 5cm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Size: 87cm x 130cm (34in x 51in)



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

1 Download and print the 14.5cm hexagon template at 100daysofcrafts.com, cut it out from card and snip in half. Trim 6.5cm wide strips of seven different cotton prints and trace down the angled sides of the template on the reverse of each to cut the strips into half-hexagons.

2 Cut several 2.5cm wide strips of plain dark pink cotton and join them end-to-end to make sashing. Place the long edge of one half hexagon right side down on the sash, leaving at least 2cm excess at the beginning of the strip. Sew together on the long edge, fold out and finger press the seam to the sash side.

3 Place a ruler along the angled sides of the half-hexagon and use a rotary cutter to trim the sashing strip in line with the half-hexagon. Sash all the other shapes in the same way, then press.

4 Lay a sashed half-hexagon on the left side of your work surface, long edge down and tilt slightly anti-clockwise. Place a second piece with its long bottom against the right-hand angled edge, lining up the top of the first piece with the left side of the second. Flip the second piece face-down along its long edge and stitch to the right-hand angled side of the first piece. Unfold and finger press.

5 Lay the joined half-hexagons flat and place a third piece along the combined top and side edge of the first two pieces. Flip over face-down on its long edge and sew to the first two pieces. Unfold and finger press. Continue adding sashed half-hexagons in the same way to build up a 'plaited' strip with 28 of them.

6 Use a rotary cutter and ruler to cut straight across the bottom of the plait and stitch the offcut to the top to create neat ends to the strips. Make three more plaited strips in the same way and join together with sashing strips into a quilt top. Add a border of sashing to the quilt top and press.

7 Layer the quilt top out face-up onto 2oz wadding and the white cotton backing fabric. Pin and hand sew the layers together using a coordinating thread at the uppermost corner of every third half-hexagon. Bind the edges of the quilt by joining more 2.5cm wide strips of plain pink cotton end-to-end and sewing as you would with bias binding.

TOP TIPS

★ A small travel iron is fantastic for patchwork as you have more control than a large standard iron

★ Pay attention to your cutting. Accurate measurements and consistent seam allowances make life so much easier when it's time to sew pieces together

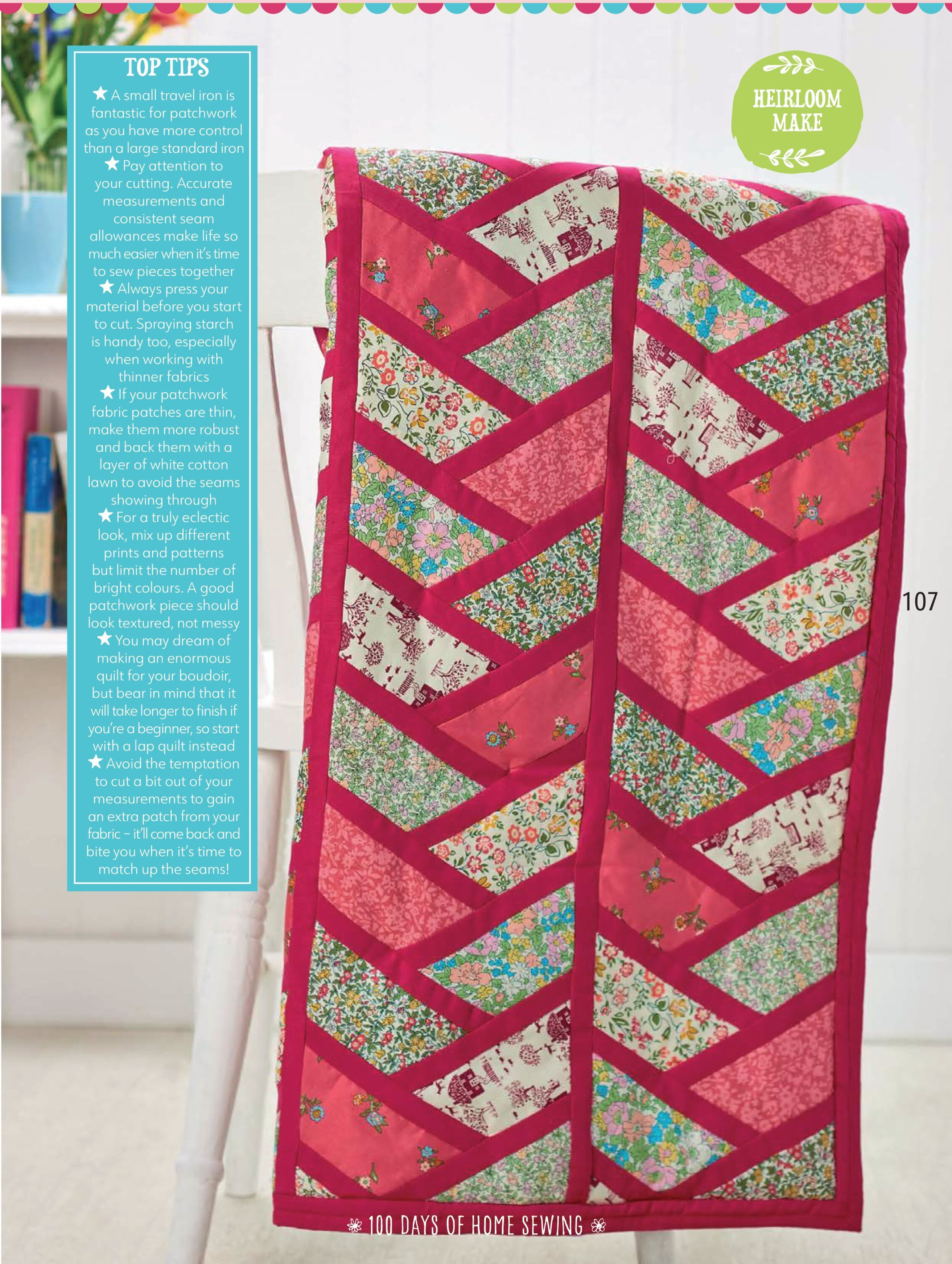
★ Always press your material before you start to cut. Spraying starch is handy too, especially when working with thinner fabrics

★ If your patchwork fabric patches are thin, make them more robust and back them with a layer of white cotton lawn to avoid the seams showing through

★ For a truly eclectic look, mix up different prints and patterns but limit the number of bright colours. A good patchwork piece should look textured, not messy

★ You may dream of making an enormous quilt for your boudoir, but bear in mind that it will take longer to finish if you're a beginner, so start with a lap quilt instead

★ Avoid the temptation to cut a bit out of your measurements to gain an extra patch from your fabric – it'll come back and bite you when it's time to match up the seams!



HEIRLOOM MAKE

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

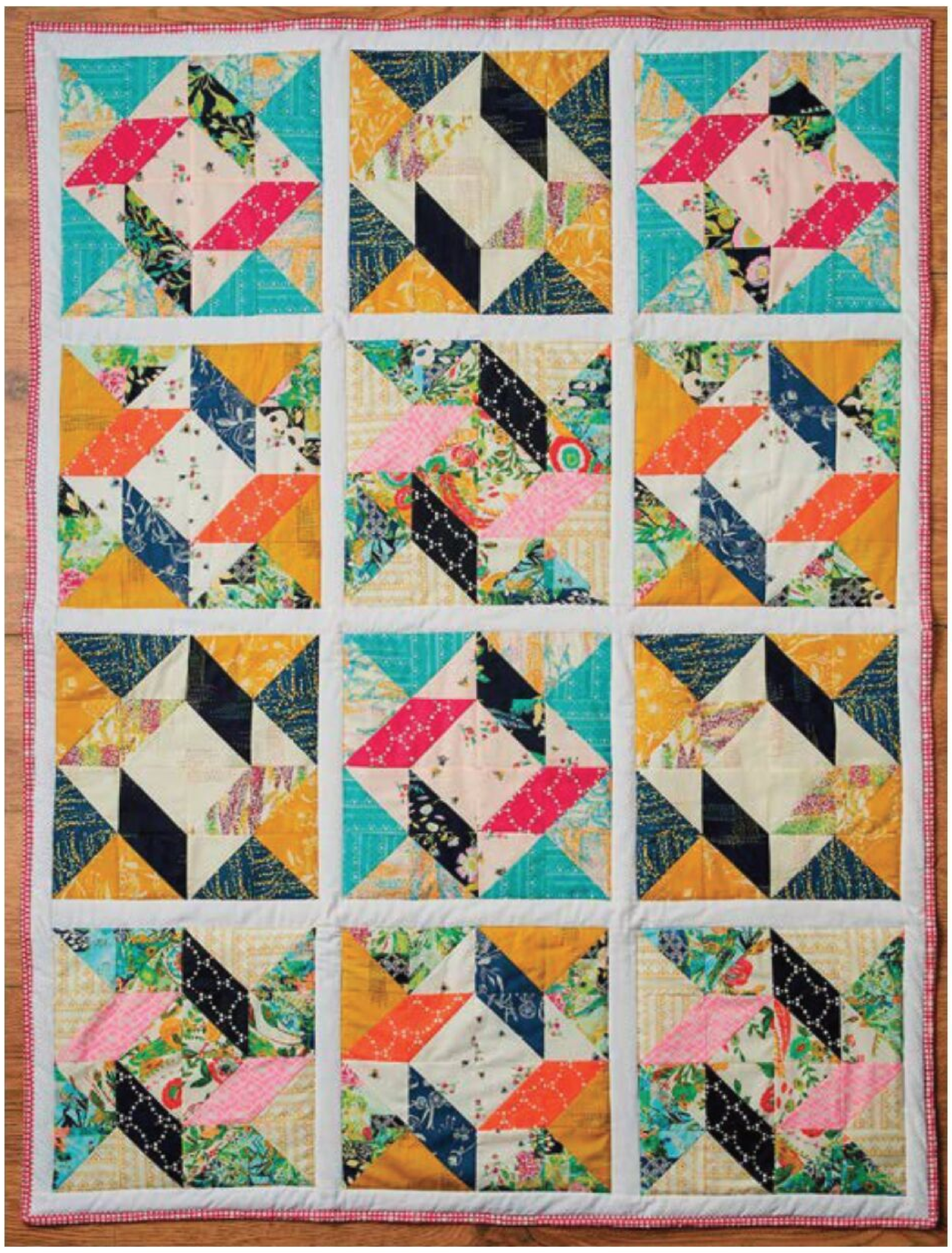
Windblown quilt

There's always room for another pretty quilt, either for your bed or to use as a throw!

KIT LIST

★ 20 assorted fabrics, 27.5cm x 50cm of each ★ Border fabric, 25cm x width ★ White cotton sheeting, 2m ★ 2oz quilt wadding, 1.5cm

Size: 1.03m x 1.38m



1

2

3

1 For each block you will need five shades. Cut four white, four yellow, four light blue, two dark blue and two red 9cm squares. Mark a diagonal pencil line on the back of the eight blue and red squares **[1]**.

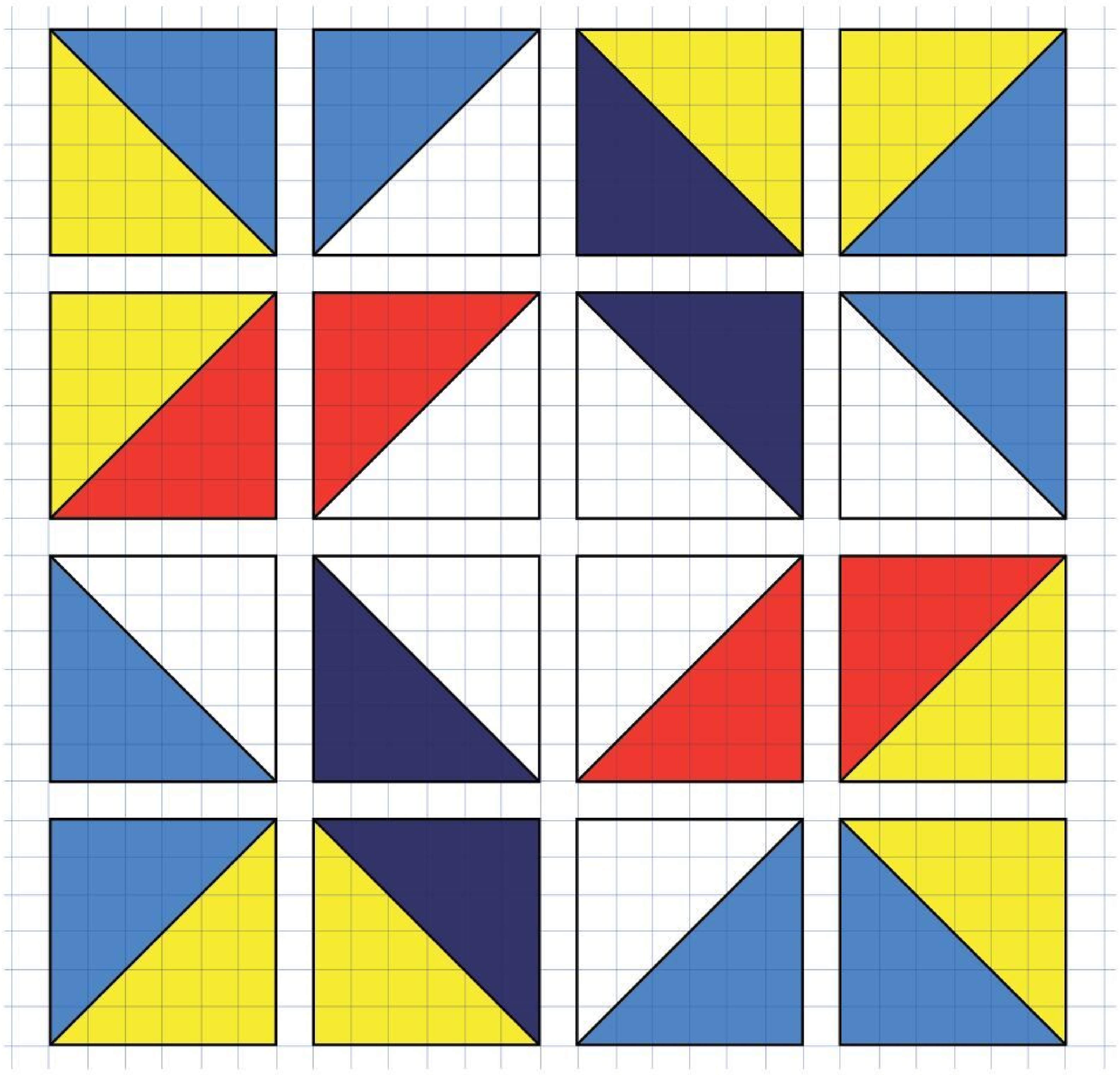
2 Pair up the squares, right sides together, white and red, white and dark blue, white and pale blue x 2, yellow and pale blue x 2, yellow and red, yellow and dark blue. Stitch the pairs together 5mm either side of the pencil line **[2]**. Cut along the middle.

3 Open out the resulting half square triangles (HST) and press the seams to the darker side of the squares **[3]**. Arrange the HSTs as shown on the layout and stitch together in pairs. Sew the pairs together to make squares and join them into a full block.

4 Create 12 windblown square blocks from four different colour combinations and arrange in a three x four layout. Cut 4cm wide strips of white cotton sheeting and use these as sashing to join the blocks into strips. Join the strips into a quilt top with more sashing and add a white border all round.

5 Press the entire quilt top. Lay wadding onto white cotton backing fabric and place the quilt on top. Pin the three layers together at regular intervals and trim the wadding and backing 2cm larger than the quilt. Top stitch the layers together around the separate blocks, starting from the centre and working out in all directions. Zig-zag stitch the fabrics together at the edge of the quilt and cut away the excess.

6 Cut 3cm wide strips of patterned border fabric and join end to end to make a continuous piece 5m long. Pin and stitch the border to the back of the quilt, right side facing, mitring the corners. Turn to the right side of the quilt, fold under 5mm along the raw edge and topstitch in place, 1mm from the edge.



TOP TIP! USE HIGHLY-CONTRASTING FABRICS TO ACHIEVE AN ALMOST 3D EFFECT WITH THIS QUILT PATTERN

COLOUR TO SUIT YOUR SCHEME

WHY NOT TRY...

Sashing strips are rectangles of fabrics placed between your blocks – choose their colour carefully as it can dramatically transform the look of your quilt! You may want the sashing to blend in with your fabrics, frame them or add an additional design element

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Chevron quilt

STYLE FOR ALL SEASONS

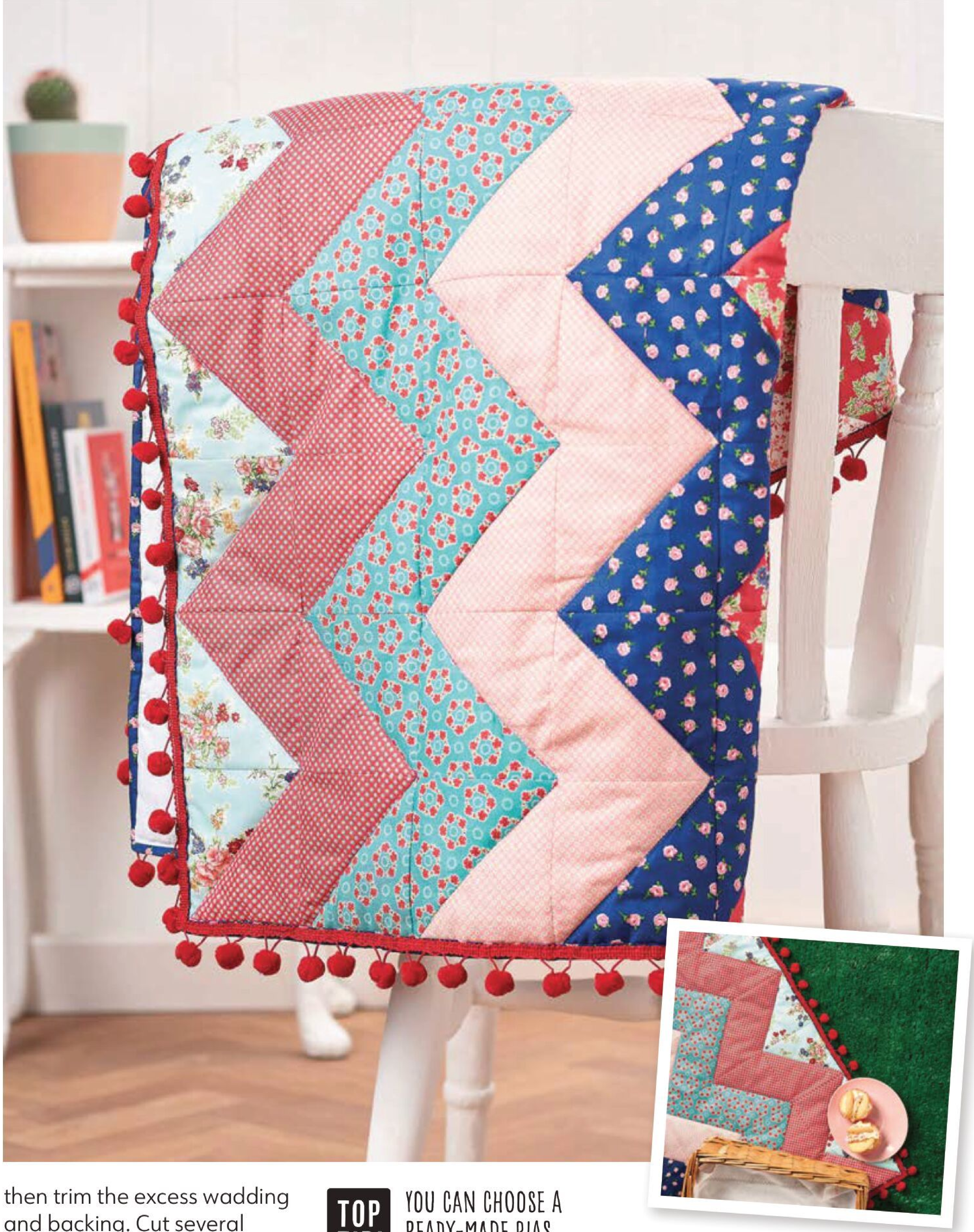
You'll be ready for any patriotic occasion with this gorgeous blanket made in red, white and blue

KIT LIST

★ Assorted printed fat quarters ★ Plain cotton ★ Lightweight wadding ★ Pom-pom trim

NB: use 5mm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Size: 82cm x 92.5cm



1 Cut eight 12cm squares each from nine different fabrics and arrange them side-by-side into an attractive composition. Draw a diagonal line across the back of four pieces of the first colour and pin the squares to four pieces of the second print, right sides together. Draw a diagonal line across the back of the remaining four pieces of the second colour and pin each square to four pieces of the third, right sides together. Continue pairing up the squares in this way, matching the final four with the remaining four pieces of the first colour.

2 Use the drawn diagonal as a guide to sew across the squares, 5mm either side of the line. Cut the squares in half along the line and finger press the resulting pieces along the seams to make half-square triangles. Sew these together in pairs to make an arrowhead shape before stitching the pieces together in zig-zag rows. Stitch the rows together in the correct order to make a chevron design, then press.

3 Pin the quilt top to wadding and white backing fabric, then topstitch along the chevrons with a variegated embroidery thread. Sew around the edge of the quilt, then trim the excess wadding and backing. Cut several 3cm-wide strips of one fabric and sew end-to-end to make a continuous strip. Use this to bind the edges of the quilt, mitring the corners neatly. Hand stitch a pom-pom trim to the top of the binding.

TOP TIP! YOU CAN CHOOSE A READY-MADE BIAS BINDING OR IT'S EASY TO MAKE YOUR OWN USING FABRIC STRIPS CUT ON THE BIAS GRAIN AT A 45° ANGLE TO THE SELVEDGE, PRESSED WITH THE HELP OF A BIAS BINDING MAKER TOOL

WHY NOT TRY...

Use an oilcloth or laminated cotton for the quilt backing to turn it into a waterproof picnic blanket

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Mother hen

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

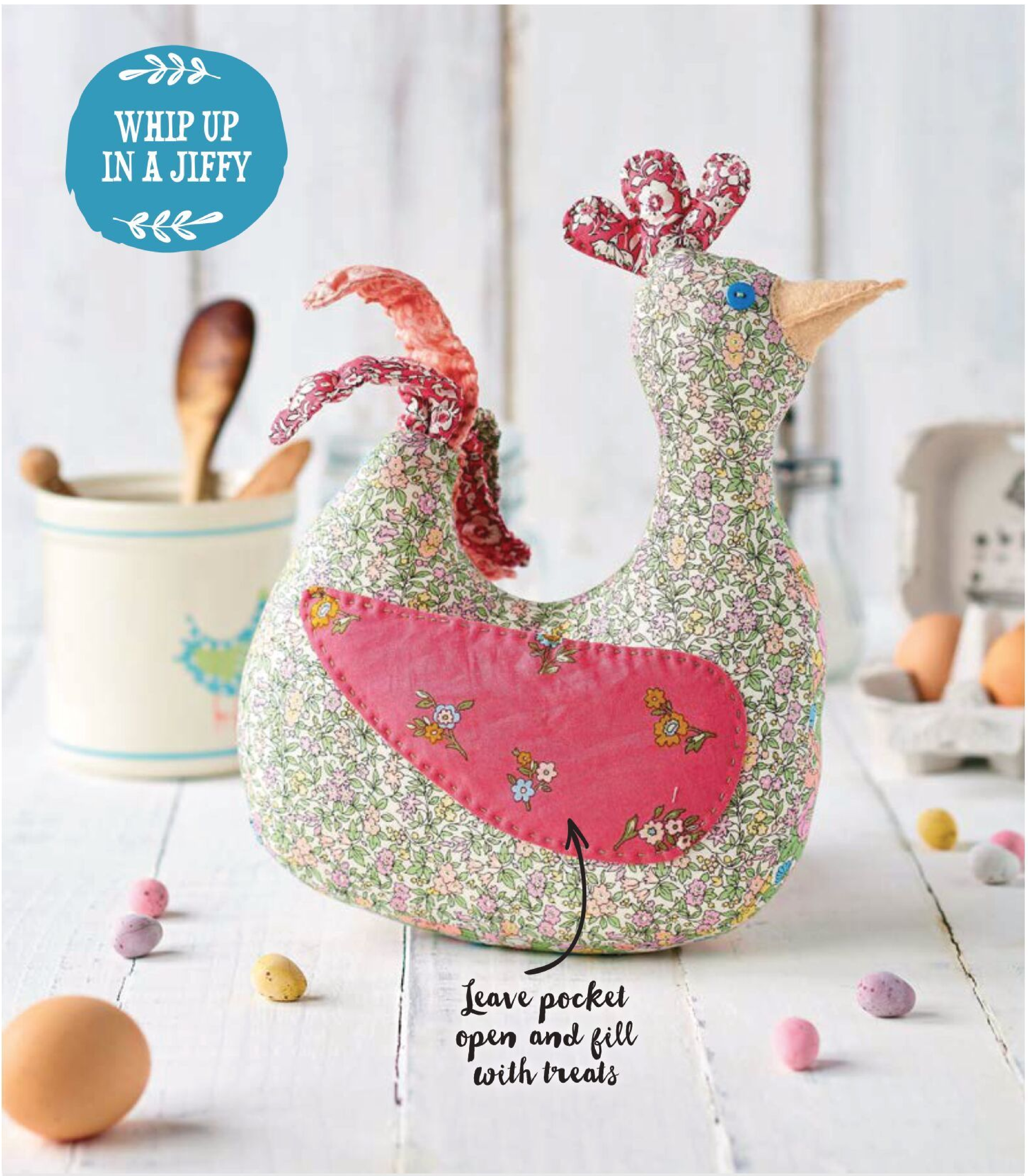
This plush bird will look stylish adorning a dresser or propping open a door if you fill her with sand

KIT LIST

- Assorted printed fat quarters
- Felt: pale yellow
- Toy stuffing
- Embroidery thread
- 1cm blue buttons
- Lightweight wadding

NB: Use 5mm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

Size: 24cm x 30cm


WHIP UP IN A JIFFY

Leave pocket open and fill with treats

1 Download and print the hen templates online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Cut one pair of body pieces, adding a 5mm seam allowance around. Cut a body gusset from coordinating fabric and stitch one side to a body piece between the crosses.

2 Sew the remaining body piece to the other edge of the gusset. Stitch the rest of the body pieces together, leaving a gap at the top of the head and tail. Turn the body out through the head gap and stuff firmly. Turn in the raw edges of the gap and finger press, but don't close yet.

3 Cut two cockscomb pieces from contrast fabric and sew right sides together, leaving the bottom flat edge open. Clip all curves and corners, turn right sides out and stuff lightly. Tack the bottom edge closed, slip the comb into the top of the head, then slip stitch the gap closed.

4 Cut five pairs of tail feathers from assorted fabrics and pair up right sides together. Pin onto wadding and sew around the feathers, leaving the straight edge open. Trim the wadding to size, then turn out. Use two strands of light blue thread to sew running stitch around the edges of the feathers, pulling taut in places to gently curl each one. Gather the feathers in a bunch and sew together at the raw ends. Fit into the gap at the tail and slip stitch closed, so the feathers fan out.

5 Cut two pairs of wings from contrasting fabrics and pair up right sides together onto wadding. Pin and stitch through all layers, leaving a gap along the top straight edge. Trim the wadding to size and turn out. Turn in the edges of the gap and pin. Sew running stitch around the edges of the wings, closing the gap as you go.

6 Pin and slip stitch the wings to either side of the body, leaving the top edges open to use as pockets for treats or sewing supplies.

7 Cut two beak pieces without a seam allowance from pale yellow felt, and sew together with running stitch, leaving the curved part open. Lightly stuff and oversew to the front of the head. Add two 10mm blue buttons for eyes or embroider French knots if gifting to a child.

DESIGNERS **AMANDA RUSSELL & JULIET BAWDEN – R&B DESIGN**

Liberty pillowcases

Treat yourself to some beautiful and timeless prints in the bedroom with these exquisite makes

KIT LIST

★ Liberty lawn fabric in Danjo, Betsy Pink and Margaret Annie
★ A pillowcase (used to copy the measurements)
★ Cotton lace trim

1 Measure the pillowcase and add 1cm seam allowance to each side. Measure the depth of the pillowcase flap and add a seam allowance to each side.

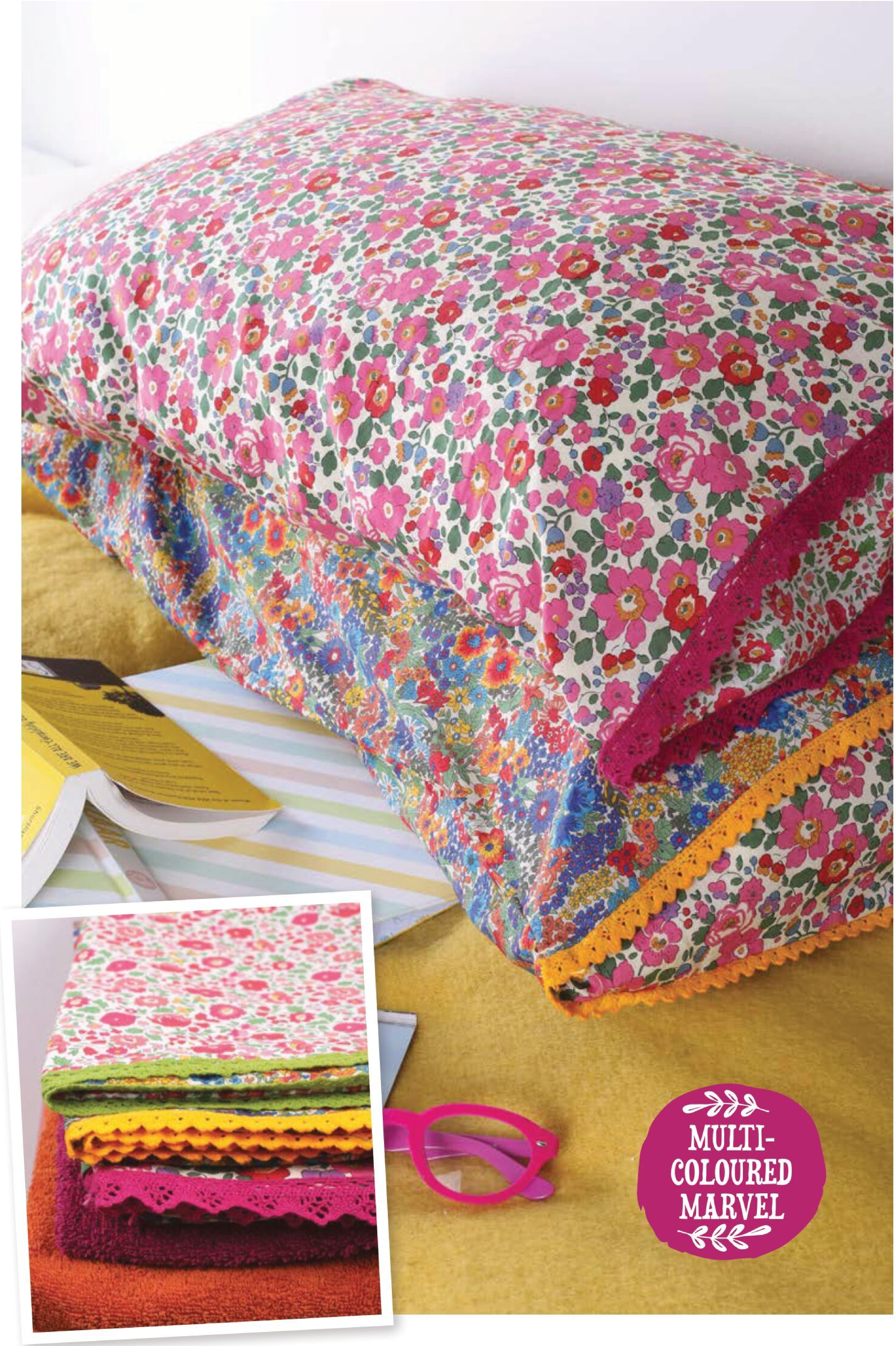
2 Cut a front and a back in one Liberty print fabric and cut a flap in a contrast fabric. Neaten one long side of the flap by turning under 0.5cm and the same again, sew with a running stitch.

3 Stitch one piece of lace trim along the neatened edge of the flap. With right sides together, sew the flap onto one narrow side of the back piece of fabric. Press the seam flat.

4 Turn under and under again one narrow side of the pillowcase, front fabric. Press, then pin and sew on a piece of lace trim.

5 With right sides facing, pin the pillowcase front to the back so that the front opening reaches up to where the flap is. Sew with a running stitch.

6 Fold the flap over, where you have just sewn so that the front of the flap faces the wrong side of the pillow front. Pin the sides of the flap to the sides of the pillow and sew with a running stitch. Turn through so that the fabric is the correct way round, and press to finish.



MULTI-COLOURED MARVEL

TOP TIP! SEE MORE OF JULIET AND AMANDA'S MAKES AT CREATIVECOLOUR.ORG AND AMANDARUSSELLDESIGN.CO.UK

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Llama cup cosy

Llama lovers can rejoice in this themed wrap for keeping their cuppa warm!

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: organic cotton knit, coloured cotton ★ Cotton wadding ★ Coloured felt ★ Embroidery thread ★ White elastic, 2.5cm wide

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download templates. Layer an organic cotton knit rectangle face down onto plain cotton. Place this over a rectangle of wadding and pin the beaker template to the stack. Cut out the slightly curved shape and sew around the edges, leaving a gap in one straight side.

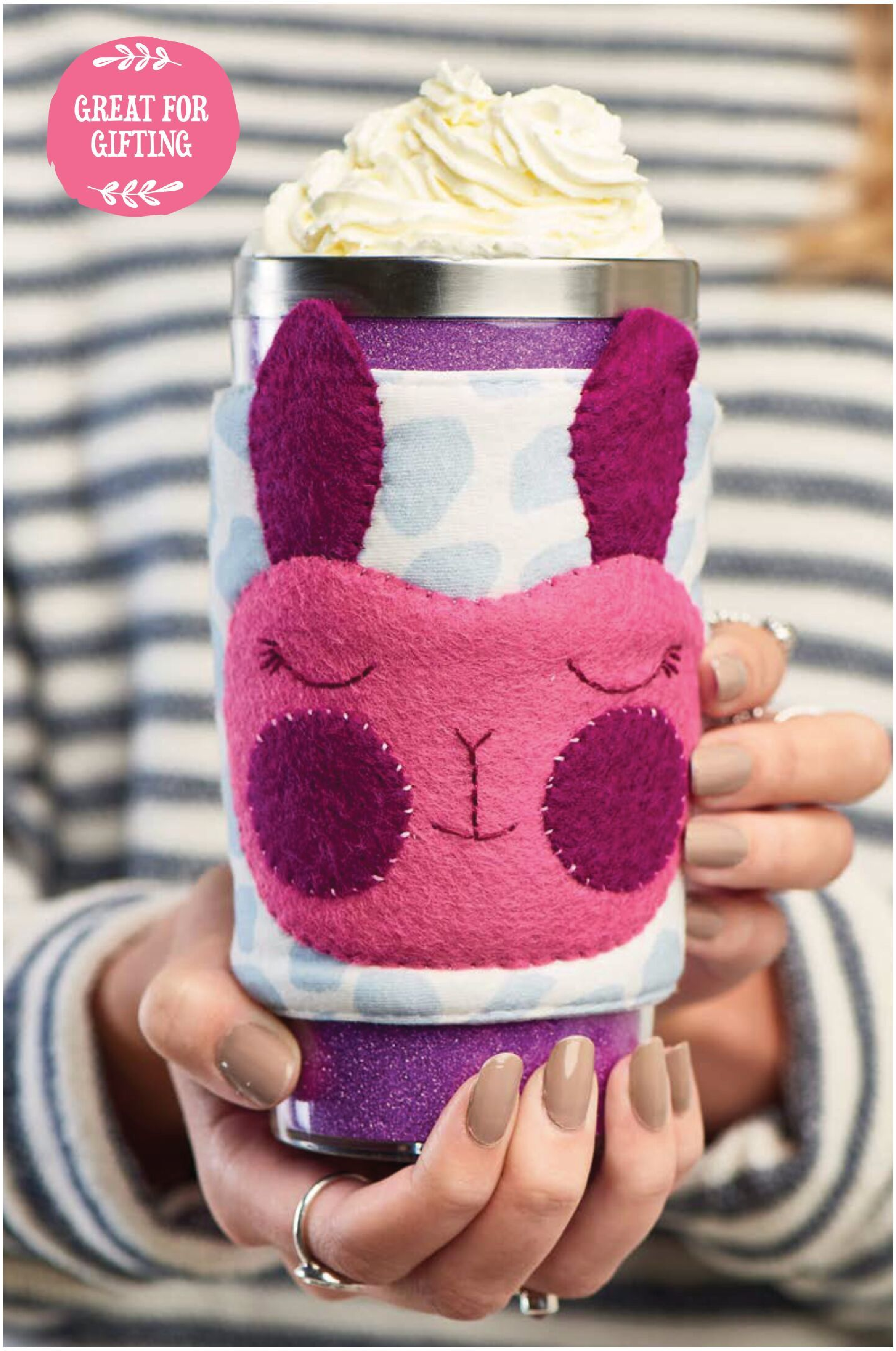
2 Turn out the cosy. Push out the corners with a knitting needle. Flatten the shape, turn in the raw edges of the gap and topstitch all around, 2mm in from the edges.

3 Cut two 3cm circles in maroon felt and oversew them to a mask shape cut from pink felt. Embroider details to the face. Cut two ears from maroon felt. Pin the ears and mask to the centre of the cosy; ensure the tops of the ears extend slightly. Oversew this to the cosy through all the fabric layers for security.

4 Snip two white elastic pieces, 2.5cm x 5cm, and sew securely to the inside of both ends of the cosy at the top and bottom so the sleeve can be slipped over a beaker.

WHY NOT TRY...

Switch up the facial features and recreate your favourite animal


GREAT FOR GIFTING

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS. COM

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Patchwork trivet

Protect your table from marks and spills with these beginner-friendly padded mats

KIT LIST

- ★ Fabric: coordinating cotton, Dashwood Studios Suffolk Garden collection; white cotton backing
- ★ Cotton quilt wadding, 2oz

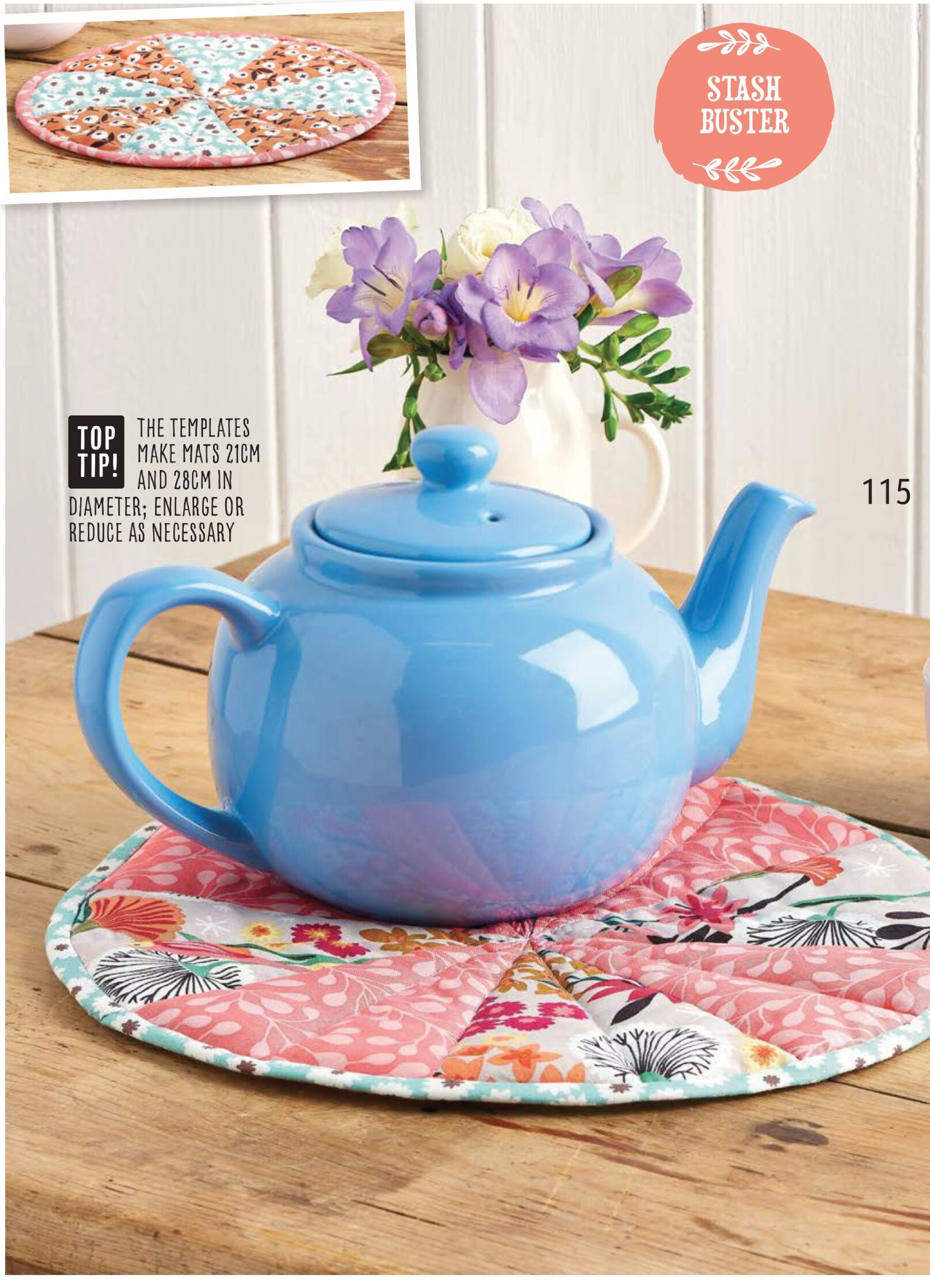
NB: use 0.5cm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download the templates. Cut four wedge shapes from one fabric and four from a coordinating print. Stitch one piece of each fabric, right sides together with a 0.5cm seam allowance, along one straight edge to make four quarter circles.

2 Sew the quarter circles together to make two semicircles and finally a full circle. Press all the seams to one side on the reverse before cutting a plain white circle and a wadding circle of the same size. Layer the pieces together and pin with the patchwork face up on the quilt wadding and the backing fabric below.

3 Quilt the stack by sewing along the seam lines from side to side and add radiating lines in the centre of each segment if desired. Trim the outer edges to neaten if necessary. Cut a 3cm wide strip of fabric long enough to bind the edge of the trivet.

4 Stitch to the reverse of the mat, right sides together and 0.5cm from the edge, easing the fabric around the curve as you do so. Fold the fabric strip up over the edge of the trivet. Fold under 0.5cm on the raw edge and slip-stitch to the front of the mat to complete the binding.



STASH BUSTER

TOP TIP! THE TEMPLATES MAKE MATS 21CM AND 28CM IN DIAMETER; ENLARGE OR REDUCE AS NECESSARY

DESIGNER **CHERYL OWEN**

Cat igloo & toy

Felines will love this toy and cosy bed – it's the purrfect hideaway for a quick catnap or a quiet moment alone

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, cotton: blue patterned, 1.1m x 1.4m; grey checkered, 90cm x 1.1m ★ Fusible fleece, low-loft, 90cm square ★ Fusible interfacing, heavy weight, 40cm square ★ Plastic boning, 1.2cm x 1.75m ★ Wooden dowel, 25cm ★ Narrow ribbon, 25cm ★ Tracing paper ★ Toy filling ★ Feather ★ Glue ★ Large-eyed needle

NB: use 1cm seam allowance unless otherwise stated

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

CAT IGLOO

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Copy the igloo template onto folded tracing paper, matching the 'place to the fold lines' to the fold. Mark the circle and arrow, then draw a 35cm diameter circle on tracing paper for the base template. Cut out the templates and open them out flat. Snip out two pairs of igloos and one base from blue and grey fabric and fusible fleece. Trim one bias strip from blue fabric for the binding, 7cm x 1.1m. Cut one base from low-loft fusible fleece and heavyweight fusible interfacing.

2 Draw the circle on the wrong side of one grey igloo with a pencil. Fold the fabric bases into quarters, snip the divisions then out flat again. Press the blue igloos to the fusible fleece pieces. Press the blue base to the heavyweight fusible interfacing base. Press the grey base to the fusible fleece base. Stitch the blue igloos together in pairs along one long edge. Snip the curves and press the seams open. Pin the four blue igloos together. Sew the long edge, matching the seams. Trim the curves and press the seam open. Repeat with the grey igloos.

3 Slip the blue igloo inside the grey igloo. Pin together, matching seams and lower raw edges. Sew along the outline of the circle. Cut out the circle, leaving a 1cm seam allowance. Snip the curves. Turn right side out, turning the grey igloo inside the blue igloo. Press the circle edges. Topstitch 7.5mm from the circle edges. Pin the blue igloo and grey igloo together along the seams. Stitch 7.5mm either side of one seam starting and finishing at the lower raw edges to form a channel.

4 Snip out one 85cm length of boning and insert it through the channel. Adjust the ends of the boning to 1.5cm within the raw edges, pin across the raw edges of the channel. Stitch 7.5mm either side of the other seam starting and finishing at the lower raw edges to form a channel. Cut two 44cm lengths of boning and insert each one through the channel. Adjust the ends of the boning to 1.5cm within the raw edges, pin across the raw edges of the channel. Tack along the raw edges.

5 Place the bases together with the fabric sides facing outwards, matching notches. Tack the outer edge. With the grey sides facing, pin and tack the igloo to the base, matching seams to the base notches. Press under 1cm at one end of the binding. Press the binding lengthwise in half with wrong sides facing. Starting at the pressed-under end, pin the binding to the blue base. Cut off the excess binding 2cm beyond the start. Sew in place through the layers. Turn the binding over the raw edges. Tack the pressed edge along the seam. Stitch close to the pressed edge.

FISH TOY

1 Copy the fish template onto tracing paper and cut it out. Trim two 8cm x 13cm rectangles from grey fabric. Pin the rectangles together with right sides facing. Draw around the fish template centrally on top with a sharp pencil. Mark the crosses. Stitch along the fish outline, leaving a gap between the crosses. Snip out the fish, adding a 6mm seam allowance. Trim the curves then turn right side out. Stuff the fish firmly. Slip-stitch the gap closed.

2 Mark the dot on one side of the fish with a pencil. Snip the shaft of the feather to a point 1cm below the downy barbs. Insert the shaft into the fish between the stitches, close to the dot. Slightly pull out the shaft and dab with glue. Push it back into the fish and leave to dry. Thread a large-eyed needle with ribbon and knot one end. Insert the needle through the dot and out the other side to suspend the fish. Glue the other end of the ribbon around one dowel end.

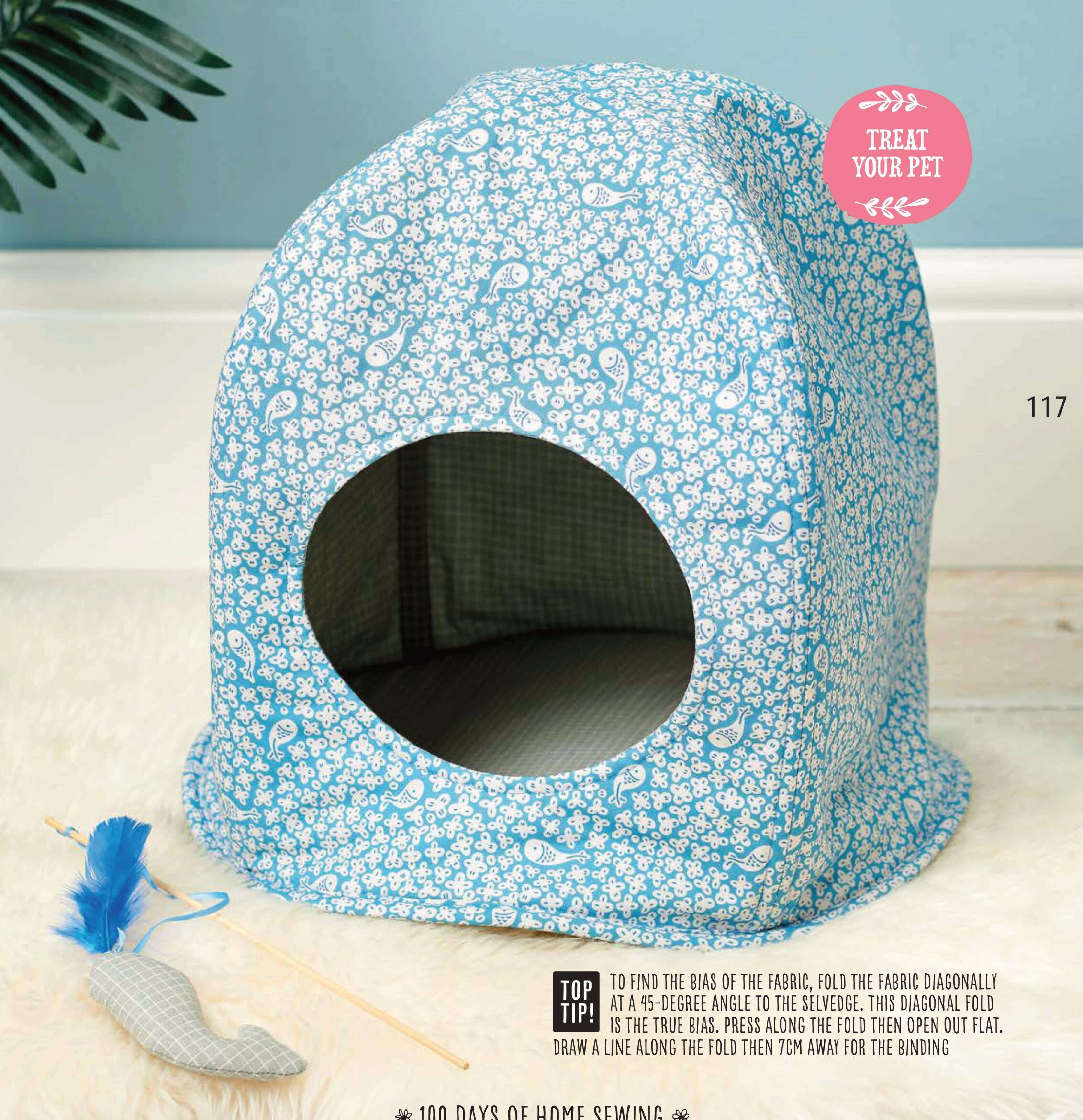
"The opening is made for a small cat or kitten, so if you need to make a larger igloo, cut a 40cm diameter circle for the base and cut the base edge of the igloo to 15cm"

CHERYL OWEN DESIGNER

WHY NOT TRY...

Once naptime is over, use the matching fish toy to lure your furry friend out for a bit of playtime – and if you're looking to make the bait even more enticing, include some yummy catnip alongside the squishy toy filling!

TREAT YOUR PET



TOP TIP! TO FIND THE BIAS OF THE FABRIC, FOLD THE FABRIC DIAGONALLY AT A 45-DEGREE ANGLE TO THE SELVEDGE. THIS DIAGONAL FOLD IS THE TRUE BIAS. PRESS ALONG THE FOLD THEN OPEN OUT FLAT. DRAW A LINE ALONG THE FOLD THEN 7CM AWAY FOR THE BINDING

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Cuddly corgi

This canine cushion in soft polar fleece is designed to be just the right size for a good hug!

KIT LIST

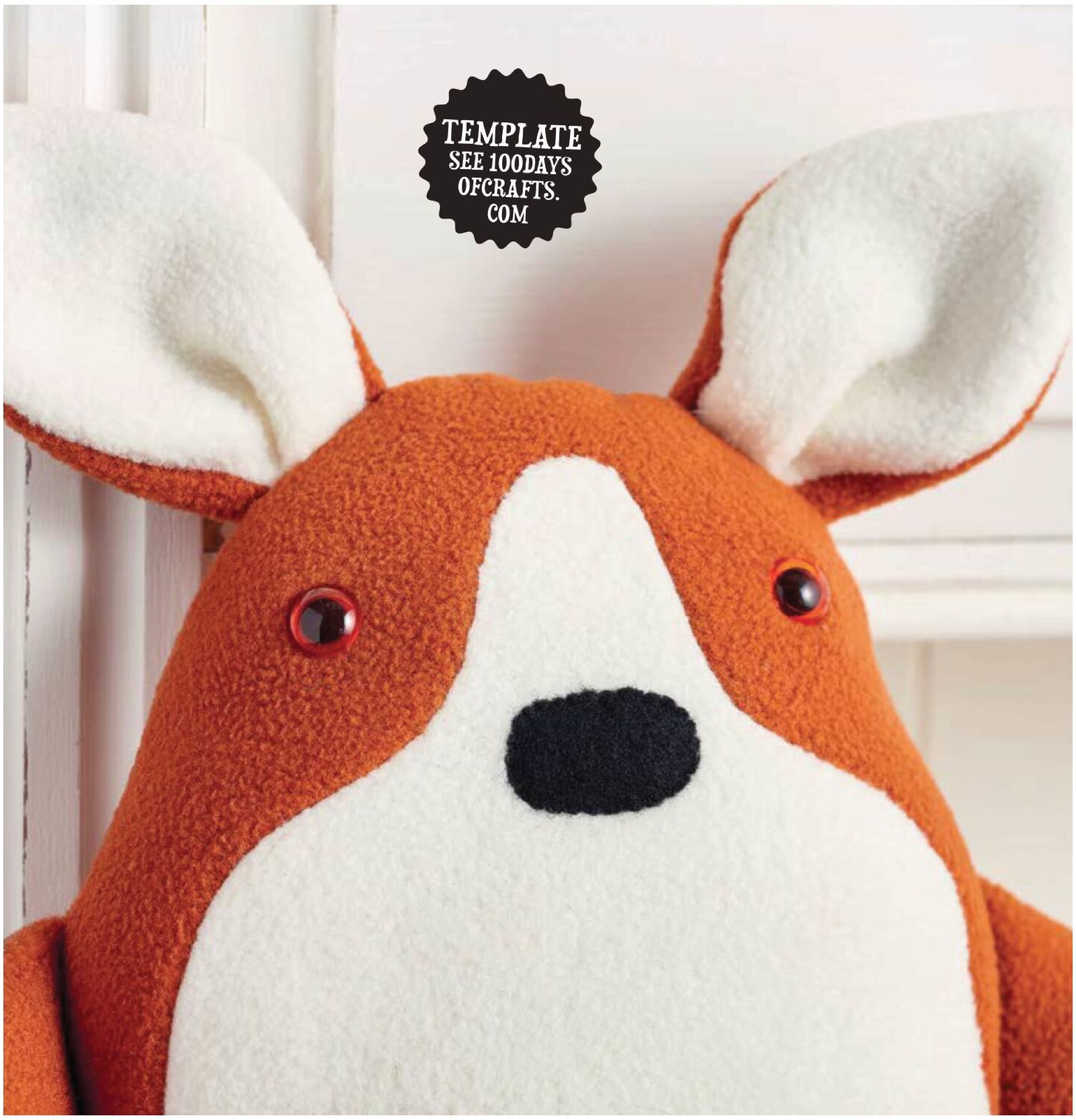
- ★ Polar fleece fabric, fat quarters: cream, rust
- ★ Toy stuffing
- ★ Safety eyes
- ★ Felt, black

1 Download the template at 100daysofcrafts.com. Using the templates as a guide, cut out from fleece fabric as indicated, adding a 5mm seam allowance to all pieces. The front and back are cut from the same template; the front has a aperture taken out of the middle for the chest piece, while the back remains a solid shape.

2 Tack the cream chest piece into the aperture of the rust front, pinning at the top and bottom first to ensure it is placed centrally. Stitch the chest piece with a 5mm seam allowance and flatten the front.

3 Pair up one cream and one rust piece for all limbs and ears. Sew together, leaving the flat edge open. Clip curves if necessary and turn out. Pleat the cream part of each ear and tack. Lay cream side down on the front of the corgi, matching raw edges and tack in place at each side of the top of the head.

4 Stuff each limb halfway full, pushing the filling right to the bottom of each one. Press the raw edges of each limb, matching up the seams, and tack so they appear bi-coloured. Tack in place against the sides and base of the body, matching the raw edges.



TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

5 Place the solid back piece over the top of the tacked limbs and pin in place around the edge of the body. Stitch together, leaving a gap in the lower side. Turn the corgi right sides out and flatten.

6 Mark the position of the safety eyes with a pencil and fit in place. Cut a 3cm long oval from black felt and oversew to the centre of the face. Stuff the body of the corgi fairly firmly. Fold in 5mm along the edge of the gap and mattress stitch closed.

> "Do not over stuff the corgi. Most fleece fabric has a certain degree of stretch and too much filling will distort the body shape"
>
> **CORINNE BRADD**
> DESIGNER

Usborne
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USBORNE
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RYLAND
PETERS
& SMALL

MAKE ME LOVE ME

DESIGNER **HELEN NEWTON**

Storage tubs

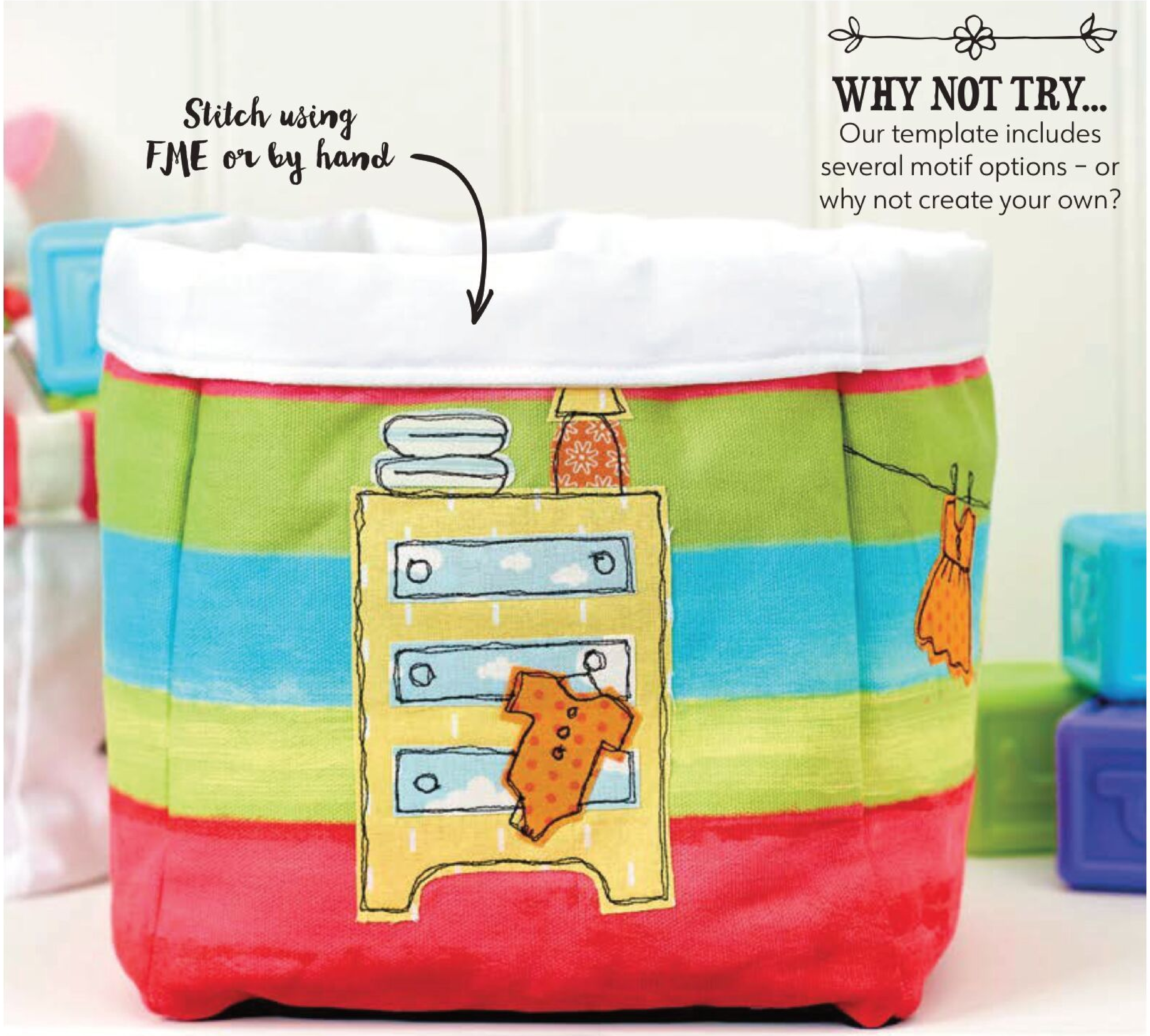
TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS.COM

Keep a youngster's play area tidy with these fabric caddies with appliquéd motifs

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: medium-weight cotton, assorted; lightweight cotton, assorted ★ Adhesive web ★ Fabric stabiliser ★ Fusible fleece or iron-on interfacing

Small tub: 15cm x 15.5cm; large tub: 19cm x 20cm



Stitch using FME or by hand

WHY NOT TRY...

Our template includes several motif options – or why not create your own?

1 Cut out the container shapes from fabric; one 17cm square and four 17cm x 20cm rectangles for the small tub, and one 20cm square and four 20cm x 24cm rectangles for the large tub. You will need to snip one set each from outer fabric, lining, and fusible fleece or iron-on interfacing.

2 Download the templates at 100daysofcrafts.com and trace the motifs onto the paper side of adhesive web. Roughly cut out, iron onto the wrong side of lightweight cotton, then trim neatly around the outlines. Arrange the motifs centrally on each rectangle of outer fabric, remove the backing and iron in place.

3 Outline the motifs with free motion machine embroidery, satin stitch or hand embroidery. If using a machine, lower the feed dogs, attach a free motion (darning) foot and place fabric stabiliser under the work before sewing. Tear this away once you have finished.

4 Fix fusible fleece to the wrong side of each outer piece. Sew two outer rectangles, right sides together, along one long side using a narrow 5mm seam. Press open. Repeat to add the other two rectangles, sewing the final seam to make a tube. Stitch the square base to the bottom of the four side panels, right sides together. Trim seams and clip corners.

5 Repeat Step 4 for the lining pieces, leaving a 10cm gap in one side of the base. Turn the lining right sides out, then place into the outer container, right sides together, matching the raw top edges. Sew a seam all the way round the top. Turn the container through the gap in the lining and stitch closed. Push the lining into the storage container and press. Top stitch all the way around the top and fold over to form a cuff.

TOP TIP! THIS IS AN IDEAL MAKE FOR USING UP TINY PIECES OF LEFTOVER FABRICS

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Knick knack bag

Tidying a little one's room will be child's play with the help of this handy drawstring hold-all

KIT LIST

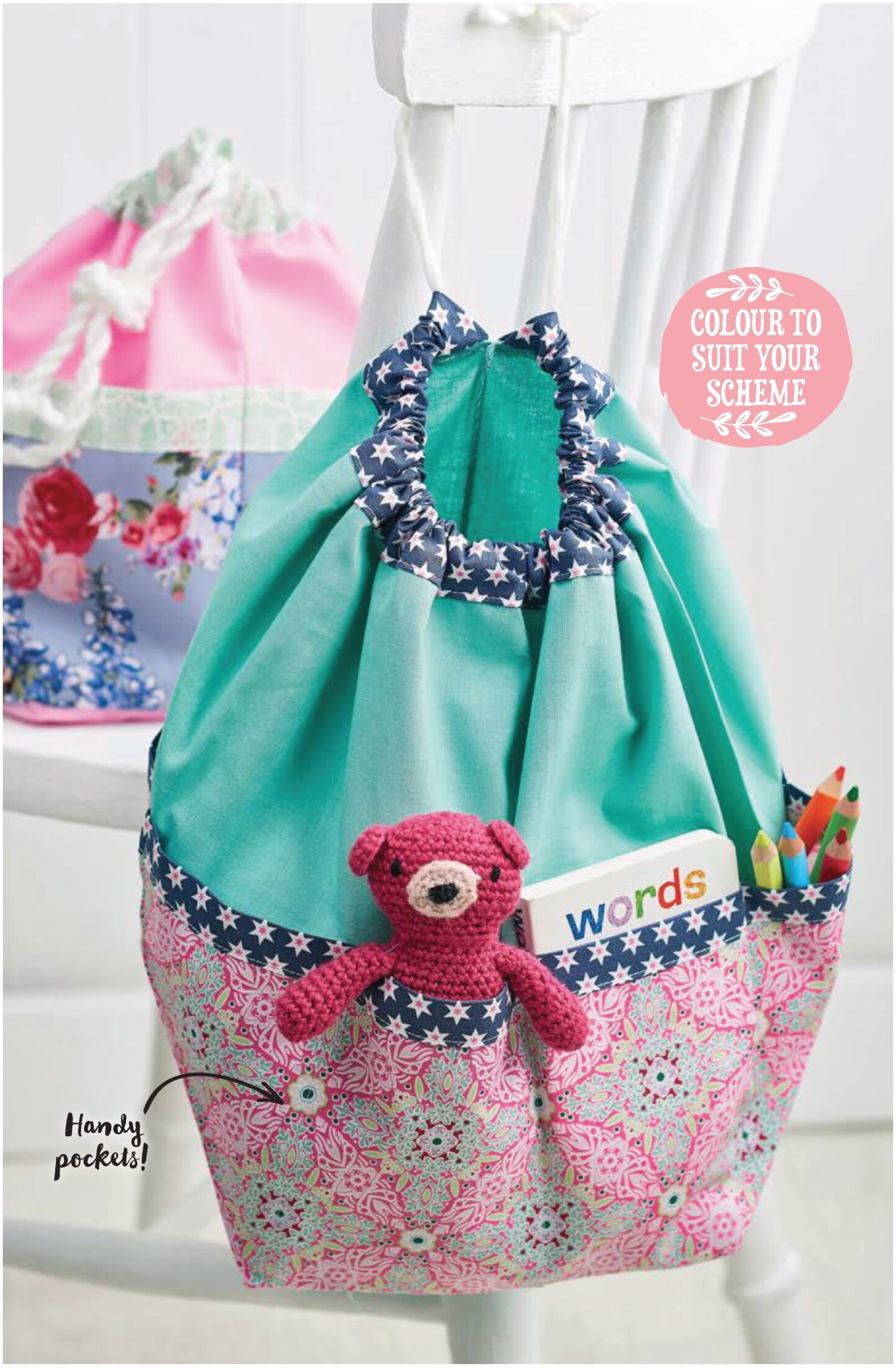
★ Cotton fabric: plain; patterned ★ Felt quilt wadding ★ Thick yarn

1 Cut plain cotton, 26cm x 71cm, and patterned, 14cm x 71cm. Prepare two strips of contrasting cotton, 6cm x 71cm. Use one strip to bind the top edge of the patterned panel to make a border. With the second, bind the top edge of the plain panel in the same way, but fold in and glue 1cm at each end to form a channel. Press the panels.

2 Pin the patterned panel on top of the plain one, lining up the bottom edges. Sew the patterned panel at 9cm intervals to make pockets. Fold right sides together and stitch the side, using a 6mm seam allowance, to form a tube, ensuring the ends of the drawstring channel aren't sewn. Trim seam and zig-zag stitch.

3 Cut plain cotton, 19cm square, then zig-zag stitch to a square of felt wadding. Pin one edge to the bottom of the tube, right sides together, with the tube's side seam in the centre of the square. Pin the opposite edge to the other side of the tube and stitch. Pin and sew the remaining sides to the bag base, gathering any excess at the corners. Zig-zag the seams and turn out. Thread yarn through the channel and gently fasten to secure.

TOP TIP! FOR SAFETY REASONS, KEEP THE BAG OUT OF REACH OF YOUNG CHILDREN. KEEP THE YARN FAIRLY SHORT AND STITCH IT IN PLACE SO IT CANNOT BE PULLED OUT



DESIGNER **JANE KHARADE**

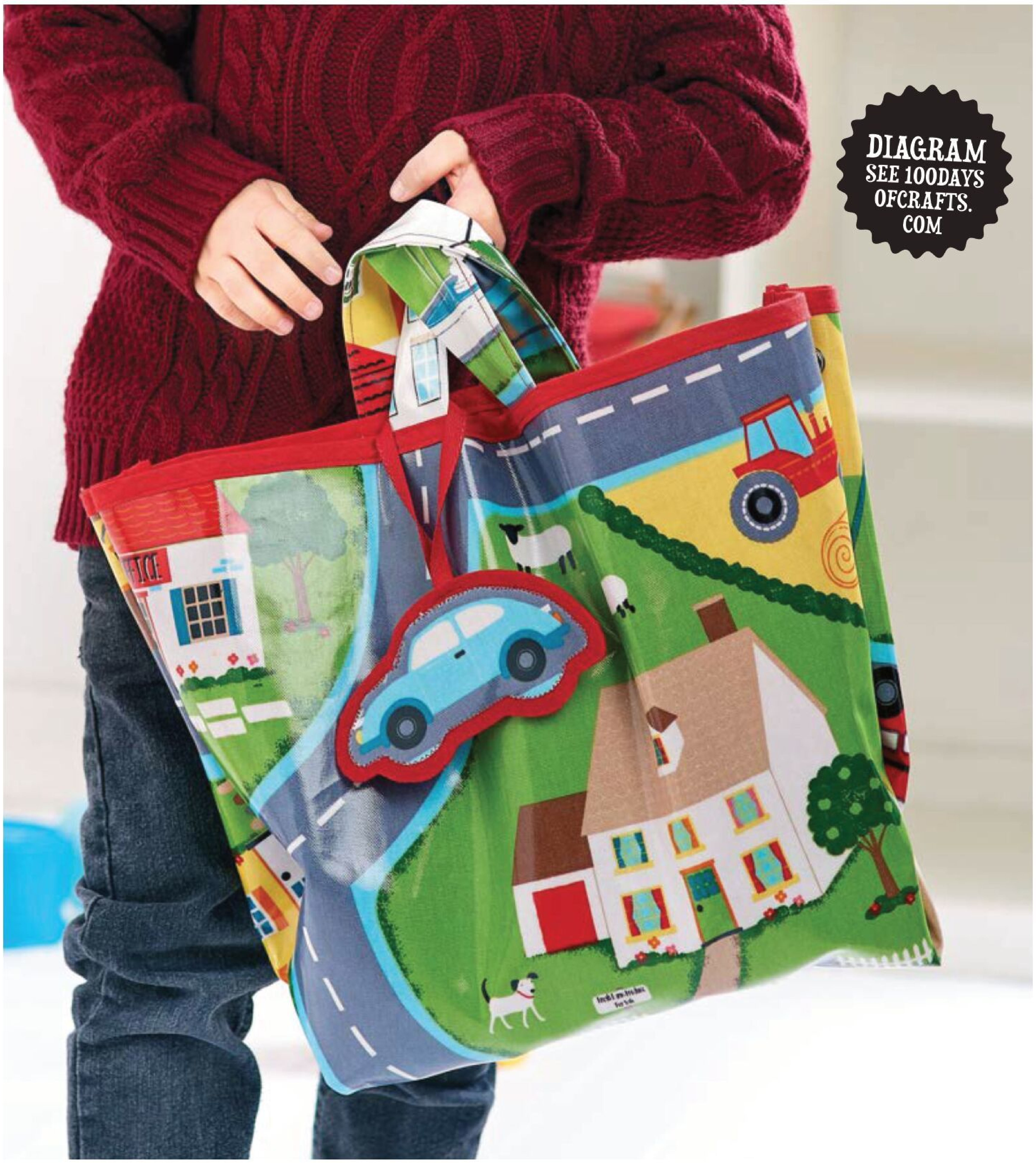
Portable playmat

This road map oilcloth not only looks great but also doubles up as a bag for fun on the go!

KIT LIST

★ Fabric: vinyl, road map print, 1m; cotton, red, star print, 50cm ★ Felt, red ★ Snap fasteners, heavy duty, 15mm, 10 ★ Bias binding, red, 2.5cm wide, 4m ★ Ribbon, herringbone, red, 5mm wide, 10cm ★ Tape, double-sided ★ Glue, PVA

Size: 50cm x 65cm



1 Visit 100daysofcrafts.com to download the diagram. Use the measurements to draw and cut out one mat from vinyl fabric. Do not use pins on this material; use double-sided tape to attach the template to it when cutting. Trim another mat from star print cotton fabric.

2 Cut an 11cm x 1m rectangle of vinyl and fold it in half lengthways with wrong sides facing. Fold in both long ends by 1.5cm and topstitch along the seam. Cut the length of vinyl in two. Bend each half to make a handle and position at the top and bottom of the vinyl mat as indicated on the pattern. Hold in place with tape.

3 Press red bias binding and position it around the top and bottom of the vinyl mat, placing the handles on top. Machine stitch along it, sewing the handles in place as you go. Piece the cotton and vinyl mats wrong sides together, and hold in place with tape.

4 Cut slits in either side of the mat as indicated on the diagram. Glue bias binding in place on the slits and, once dry, sew over using zig-zag stitch. Place bias binding around the top and bottom of the cotton mat. Stitch the binding, going through the cotton, vinyl and handles so that the handles become sandwiched between the two fabrics.

5 Sew bias binding down the sides of the bag, closing the side slits as you do. Tuck in the ends and press. Lay the mat down with the cotton facing up. Fold each long edge over to the cotton by 10cm and press.

6 To the right of the side slit, place five snap fasteners evenly down each edge of the mat, with the popper part on the vinyl side. Place the corresponding halves of the poppers on the other side of the slit, making sure they match up. Fix into position according to the manufacturer's instructions.

7 Cut a car motif from vinyl print and sew to a piece of red felt using zig-zag stitch. Cut around the car, leaving a 5mm border of felt. Loop a length of red ribbon around a handle of the bag and stitch its ends to the back of the felt.

TOP TIP! USE A FINE GAUGE SEWING MACHINE NEEDLE SUCH AS A SIZE 8 OR 9, AS LARGE HOLES CAN WEAKEN THE VINYL

BRIGHT IDEA

"The vinyl fabric is perfect for children, as it's wipe-clean, and the chunky handles are ideal for little hands to hold"

CORINNE BRADD
EDITOR

DESIGNER **LOUISE NICHOLS**

Noughts & crosses

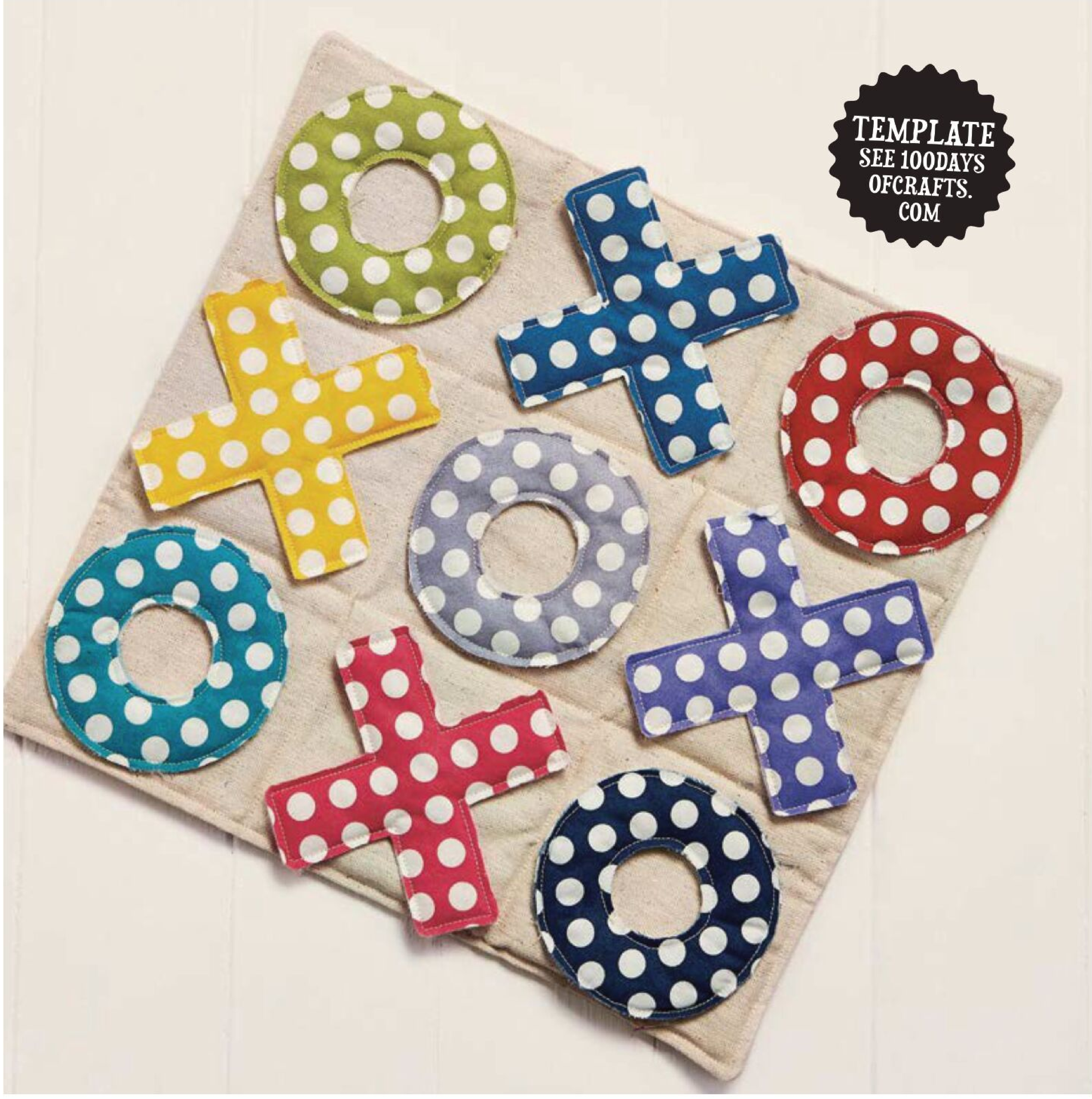
Make long trips and rainy days fun with this portable version of the classic game, complete with a handy pouch

KIT LIST

★ Assorted spotty fabrics, six 25cm square, four 13cm x 25cm pieces
★ Polyester wadding, 2oz, 35cm x 60cm ★ Plain linen fabric, 35cm x 70cm
★ Cream sewing thread
★ Dissolvable fabric pen
★ Thick cord, 5mm x 2m

Game board: 33cm square; nought: 10cm diameter; cross: 12.5cm x 12.5cm; pouch: 22cm x 30cm

NB: Use 1cm seam allowance


TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYS OFCRAFTS.COM

1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Snip five noughts and five crosses, each from a different coloured spotty fabric. Lay a piece of matching spotty fabric, wrong side up, for the back of each one. Place a piece of wadding over this, pin the nought or cross on top, right side up, and cut around it roughly – not trimming the actual shape yet.

2 With the pre-cut nought or cross on top, straight machine stitch using cream thread around the outside, 3mm from the edge. Use the first piece as a guide to trim away the excess wadding and fabric, then press lightly. Repeat for all the game pieces.

3 Cut two 35cm squares of plain linen plus one from wadding. Lay down the wadding with the two fabric squares on top, right sides together. Pin and machine stitch through all three layers, leaving a 10cm gap along one edge for turning. Snip the corners, turn through and lightly press. Machine stitch around the whole square, 5mm from the edge, closing the gap as you go. Using a fabric pen, mark nine 13cm squares and straight machine stitch down each line.

4 Cut six 13cm x 25cm rectangles using the remaining spotty fabric. Pin and machine stitch three of the rectangles together along the longest edges, then repeat with the remaining three so you have two 25cm x 35cm sections. Press the seams open. Place the pouch sections wrong side up, then turn and pin down the top edges of each one by 4cm.

5 Machine stitch across the width of each panel, 3cm down from the turned top edge, to form a channel to pass the cord through. Pin both sections, right sides together, and machine stitch around the edges, beginning and ending at the openings for the cord to pass through. Snip the corners and turn right side out.

6 Cut two 1m lengths of cord and thread one piece through the front and back of the pouch from left to right, then knot the ends together. Repeat with the other cord but thread it through in the opposite direction, so you have two loops of cord running through the openings at the top of the pouch with a knot at either side. Turn in the raw edges of the openings and make a few over stitches to hold in place.

TOP TIP! MAKE A COUPLE OF SPARE NOUGHTS AND CROSSES, IN CASE OF MISHAPS

STASH BUSTER

WHY NOT TRY...

You could add ties at one edge and Velcro dots on the board and letters so that it can be hung from the car headrest in front

HEIRLOOM MAKE

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

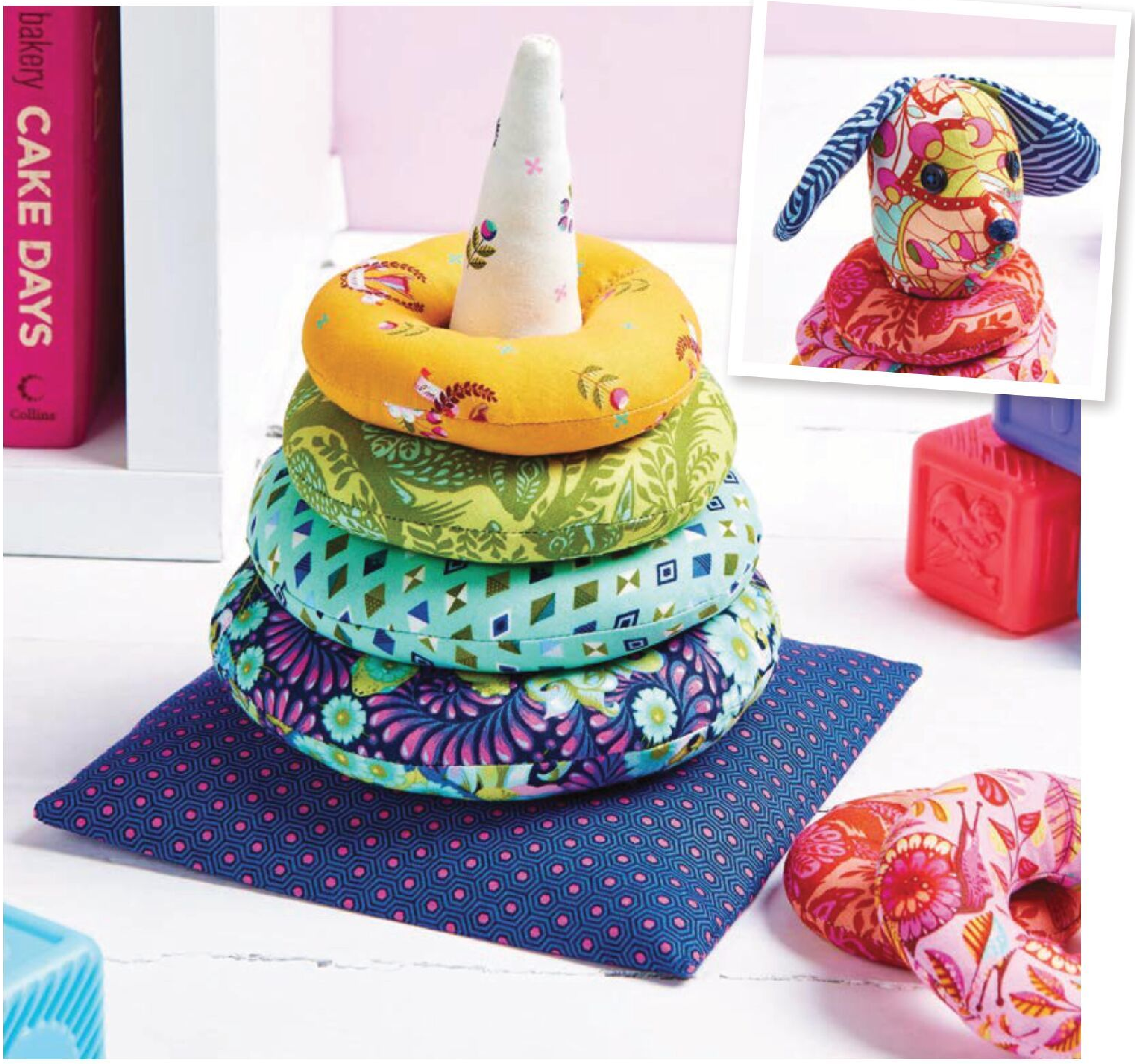
Stacking rings

With its rainbow of cotton prints, this lovable pup is not only fun to play with but will look great in the nursery too

KIT LIST

★ Fabric, printed cottons ★ Toy stuffing ★ Lightweight quilt wadding ★ Stiff card or plastic, 15cm square ★ Buttons ★ Embroidery thread ★ Pinking shears

NB: add 5mm seam allowance to pattern pieces, unless otherwise stated



1 Download and print the templates found online at 100daysofcrafts.com. Trace the circle shapes onto the wrong side of the fabric squares, placed with right sides facing, in pencil. Before cutting out, sew around both curves leaving the straight ends unsewn. Cut out the shapes with pinking shears to leave a 5mm seam allowance.

2 Fold over 5mm at each open end and tack before turning the rings right sides out. Stuff the rings fairly firmly from both ends. Bring the hemmed ends together and oversew with tiny stitches to close up the ring. Add more stuffing if necessary before completely closing the seam.

3 Cut two 16cm squares of fabric and sew right sides together around three sides. Fold over and tack 5mm on the remaining side before turning right sides out. Slip a 15cm square of stiff card inside the pouch and add a firm layer of stuffing on one side of the card. Pin and oversew the edges of the gap together to make a padded base.

4 Cut a cone piece from patterned fabric, fold in half right sides together and sew down the long seam. Fold up and tack 5mm around the base of the cone before turning out and stuffing firmly. Pin the base of the cone to the centre of the padded base and secure it by oversewing the two pieces together. Add more stuffing before completing the seam to ensure the cone stands upright.

5 Cut two head pieces from fabric placed right sides together. Stitch a dart in the top of each piece before matching up, right sides together, and sew all around, leaving the straight edge at the bottom open. Clip the curves and turn out. Firmly stuff the head, working well into the nose and top but leaving the lower half unfilled.

6 Work your finger into the centre of the stuffing to make a well. Gather up the raw edge of the head with a small running stitch and secure. Push the gathered bottom up inside the well in the stuffing of the head so it can be slipped onto the top of the cone.

7 Cut two pairs of ear shapes, right sides together, and layer onto lightweight quilt wadding. Sew around the shapes leaving a small gap in a straight area. Turn out, fold in the raw edges of the gap and oversew closed. Stitch an ear to either side of the head, using the darts as a guide for placement. Add small buttons for eyes and stitch a triangle nose to the tip of the head with two strands of embroidery thread. Stack the rings onto the cone and top with the dog's head to hold them in place.

TOP TIP! IF PREFERRED, YOU CAN REPLACE THE BUTTON EYES WITH EMBROIDERY

the hummingbird bakery CAKE DAYS
Collins

TEMPLATE
SEE 100DAYS
OFCRAFTS.
COM

> "This game will help toddlers to develop hand-eye coordination, shape and colour recognition, and problem-solving skills as they work out which order the rings go - not bad for a simple child's toy!"

CORINNE BRADD
DESIGNER

DESIGNER **CORINNE BRADD**

Nursery decoration

Your little one will be on cloud nine
with this whimsical make

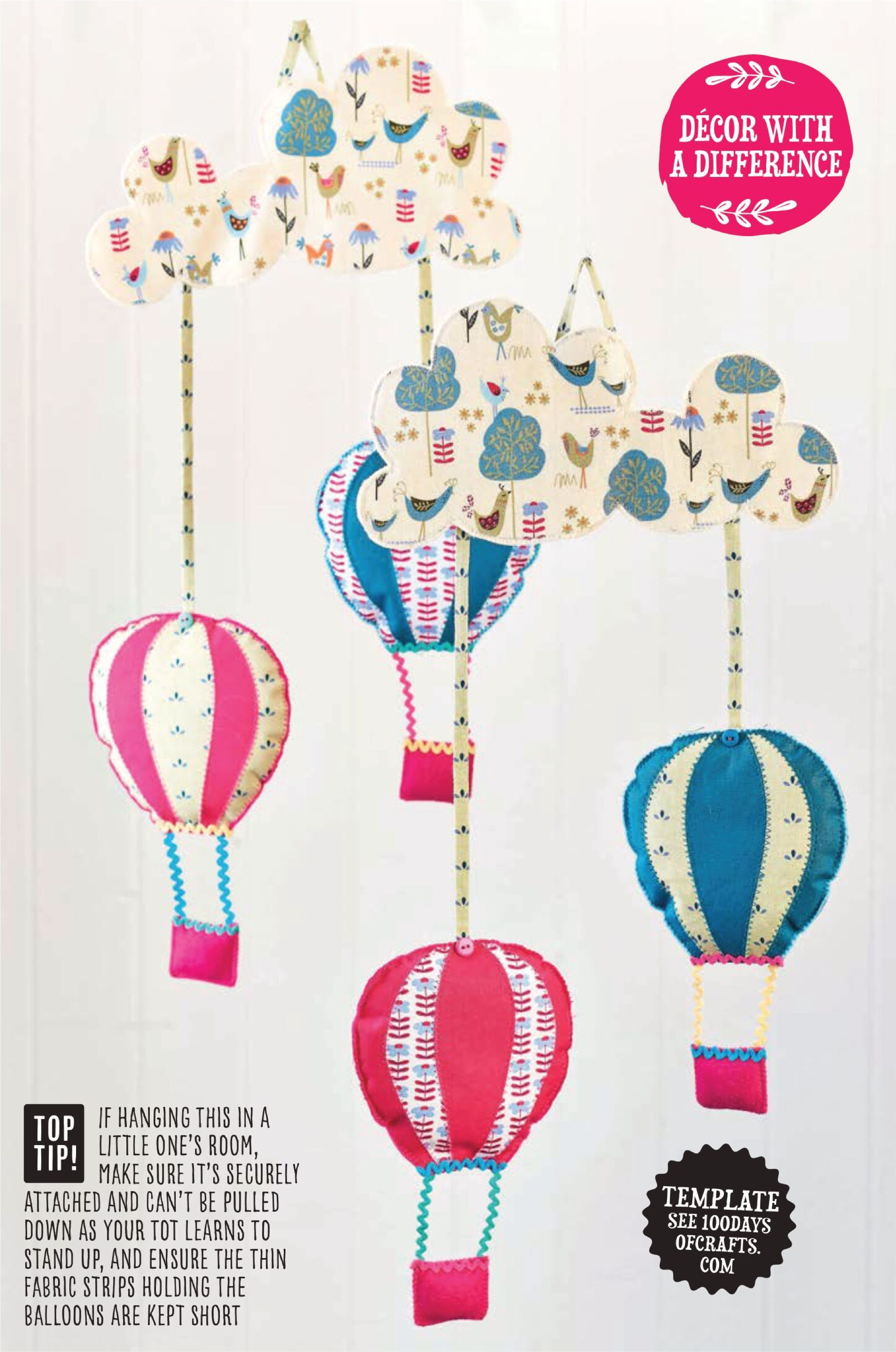
KIT LIST

- Fabric: patterned and plain cotton
- Wadding, lightweight
- Piping turner
- Fusible adhesive sheet
- Felt
- Ric-rac
- Buttons
- Fibre filling

1 Download the templates at 100daysofcrafts.com, then trace each balloon section onto the backing paper of a fusible adhesive sheet. Iron it onto the back of printed fabric and cut out. Trim two balloons for the base from plain cotton. Fuse two or three decorative sections onto each balloon and zig-zag stitch down the edges to secure. Zig-zag stitch the two main balloon shapes together, right sides facing out, leaving the base open. Make a second in a contrasting colour.

2 Lightly stuff before stitching along the bottom. Cut two basket shapes from felt, zig-zag stitch around the edges, and lightly stuff them, then close up the gap. Attach the basket to the base of the balloon with two 6cm lengths of ric-rac, then add more braid to the base of the balloon and the top of the basket.

3 Cut clouds from patterned fabric and wadding. Sandwich the wadding in between the pattern pieces, right sides facing out, and zig-zag stitch around the edges. Cut 2cm wide lengths of fabric, fold right sides together, and sew down the long edge. Turn out with a piping turner and use it to attach the balloons to the clouds. Add buttons to hide the ends of the piping, and add hanging loops to the cloud.



DÉCOR WITH A DIFFERENCE

TOP TIP! IF HANGING THIS IN A LITTLE ONE'S ROOM, MAKE SURE IT'S SECURELY ATTACHED AND CAN'T BE PULLED DOWN AS YOUR TOT LEARNS TO STAND UP, AND ENSURE THE THIN FABRIC STRIPS HOLDING THE BALLOONS ARE KEPT SHORT

TEMPLATE SEE 100DAYSOFCRAFTS.COM

TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Essential advice for all your sewing projects

STITCH TERMS

APPLIQUÉ: Decorative technique with pieces of fabric stitched on top of another

BACK STITCH: A hand stitch made by inserting the needle at the mid-point of a preceding stitch so that stitches overlap by half lengths. Strong stitch used for outlining and seams

BACK TACK: Set the machine to reverse and work back over a couple of stitches to secure

BIAS BINDING: Narrow strips of fabric used to create neat finishes to hems and edgings

BOBBIN: Removable spool underneath the needle plate on a sewing machine where the lower thread is wound

GRAIN: The lengthways and crossways directions of the threads in the fabric

INTERFACING: Fabric placed between the main materials to give item structure, available in a range of weights

PRESSER FOOT: Part of the sewing machine that is lowered over the fabric to hold in place while stitching

RAW EDGE: The cut edge of fabric. This can be finished with zig-zag machine stitch to prevent fraying

REVERSE STITCH: A sewing machine setting that allows you to work back over a row of stitches to secure

RIGHT SIDE: This is the side of the fabric that will be on show when the project is completed. When given the instruction 'right sides facing', place the fabric right sides together

SEAM ALLOWANCE: Amount of fabric allowed for turning to make a seam

SELF LINED FABRIC: Using the same material as a lining

SELVEDGE: The finished edges of woven fabrics

STAY STITCH: Straight machine stitch worked just inside a seam allowance to strengthen it and prevent breaking

TACKING STITCH: A hand sewn temporary stitch used to hold fabrics together, or as a guide before stitching

TOP STITCH: A machine straight stitch used on the right side of an item, often in contrasting colour for decorative effect

WARP: The lengthways threads on woven fabrics, the edges of which form the selvedge

WEFT: The widthways threads that run across the warp on a woven fabric

WRONG SIDE: The reverse side of the fabric, which will be the inside the completed garment

ZIG-ZAG STITCH: A machine stitch used to secure raw edges of fabric and for decoration, used in a variety of sizes

CUTTING TRICKS

★ Accurate cutting makes or breaks your project – it's tricky to put a wrong cut right. Careful, smooth cuts around the pattern pieces are what you are trying to achieve, this will help the pieces fit together when you are making them up

★ Preferably use a rotary cutter to achieve neat, straight cuts. Always aim to cut on a flat, smooth surface, and ensure that the scissors or cutter you are using are sharp. If using scissors, use the full blade for the long, straight edges and work with smaller cuts around the curves

★ If you are right-handed, place your left hand on the pattern piece and fabric to hold it securely. Holding the scissor blades at right-angles to the fabric, begin cutting cleanly around each section. Reverse this if left-handed

★ Invest in a cutting mat and keep it clean and flat when not in use

★ Keep fabric scissors sharp and use them for just fabric

★ Iron your fabric before pinning your templates to it

★ Once you've cut out all your template pieces, keep them safely together in a project bag or zip lock bag

MACHINE CARE

★ Keep your machine under cover when not in use to prevent dust gathering in moving parts

★ Clean your machine regularly, be sure to unplug it first. Many experts advise against using compressed air – a lint brush or dry cloth should do

★ Use good quality machine thread to prevent lint build up. Avoid those with waxed or glazed coatings

★ Remove the needle plate and 'de-fluff' the area around the bobbin with a brush each time you change the bobbin, and even more frequently if sewing fluffy fabrics such as fleece

★ Change the needle regularly as dull, blunt ones will affect the stitching quality. Aim to replace it after 8-10 hours of active stitching or once you've finished a big project

★ After every use, be sure to check the needle, bobbin and thread tension so any problems can be addressed before you start another project

★ Oil a machine regularly if you have a mechanical model, referring to the instruction manual. Only use a recommended oil – and just a couple of drops

★ Seek a trusted professional for servicing

THREAD FACTS

★ You should select a thread that meets your specific sewing needs. Your fabric will have an influence on the type of thread you select. As a rule the fibre content of your thread should be the same or similar to the fabric

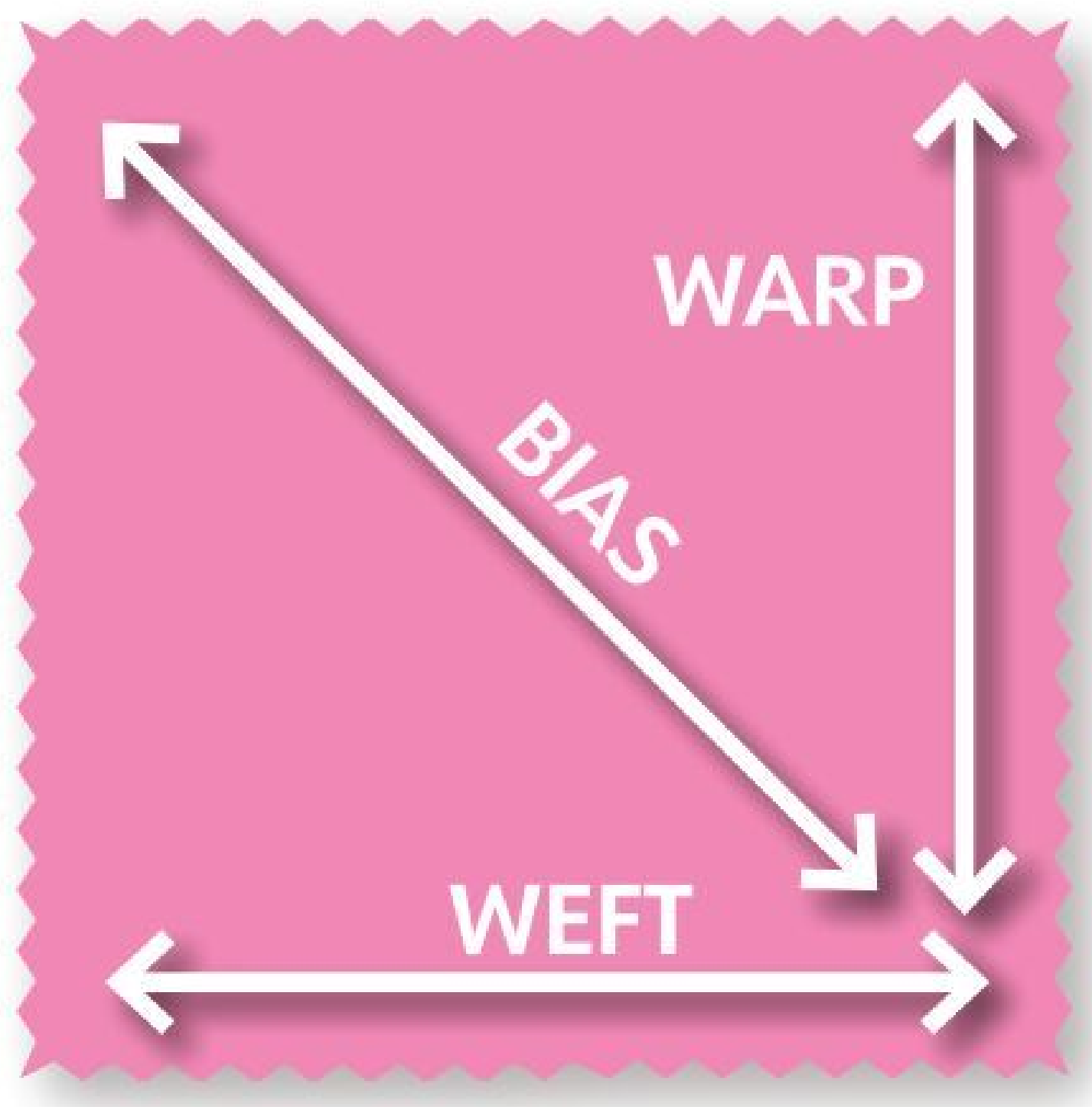
★ Heavyweight fabrics require a thicker thread and lightweight versions require a finer thread. Very lightweight or sheer fabrics are best sewn with a very fine needle and an extra fine thread

★ Using the correct thread thickness may help to reduce puckering, a problem frequently encountered when sewing with lightweight fabrics

★ Don't forget to consider the care requirements of your thread choice. They should be compatible with the fabric care recommendations

UNDERSTAND YOUR FABRIC

Getting to grips with your fabric is a fundamental part of sewing. Before you start, familiarise yourself with:



Warp These are the yarns that run the length of the fabric. They are stronger than weft yarns and less likely to stretch.

Weft These run over and under the warp threads across the fabric from selvedge to selvedge.

Bias The bias grain runs 45° to the warp and weft of the fabric. Cutting garments on the bias creates a finished piece that will follow the contours of the body.

Selvedge The non-fraying, woven edges that run parallel to the warp grain is the selvedge.

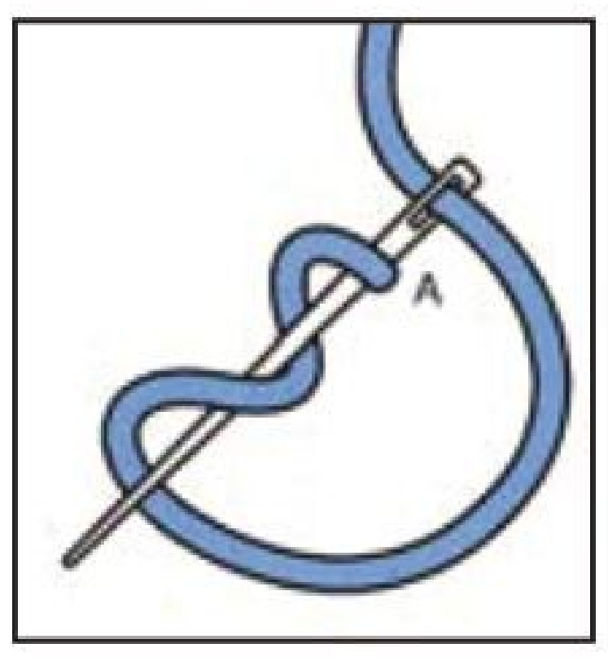
FABRIC ADVICE

★ It is advisable to launder the fabric, as you would the completed item, before you start cutting. This ensures that you will know how the fabric reacts and reduces the possibility of shrinkage in the completed garment

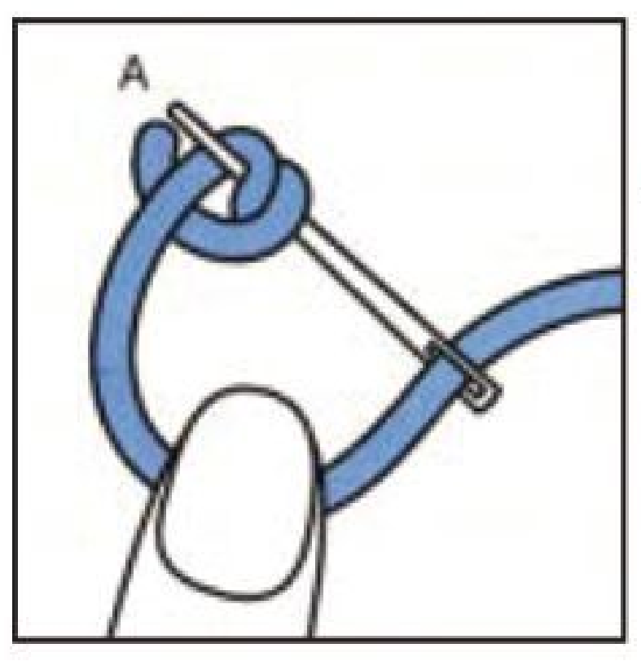
★ Press the fabric with an iron on a suitable setting, and lay out in a large space ready for pinning the pattern pieces to it

★ Fabric is usually folded selvedge to selvedge. With the material folded, the pattern is pinned to the top. Once cut, the opened fabric will be twice the size of the paper pattern piece. If your fabric is patterned, it is advisable to place the design outermost so that you can lay out the pieces in a pleasing manner to suit the printed motif

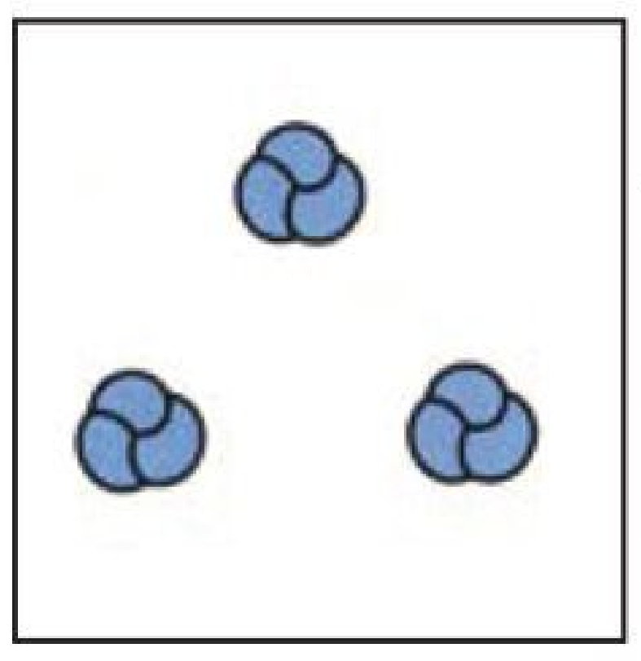
FRENCH KNOTS



1 French knots can be spaced out or worked together in a cluster. Bring the needle up through the fabric at the position of the knot, then hold the thread taut between your finger and thumb.

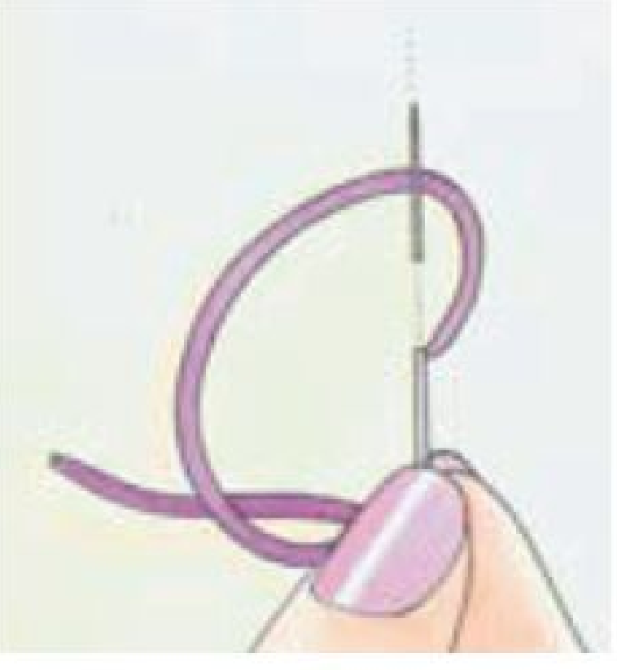


2 Take the needle under the thread and wrap it around three times. While holding the thread taut, take the needle through the starting place and pull to the back.

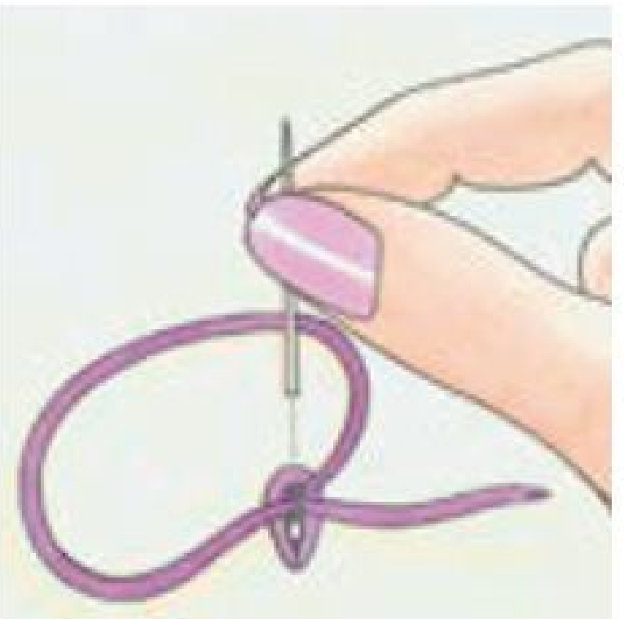


3 Once you have a small knot on the surface, take the needle back up through the fabric at the position of the next knot and repeat the process.

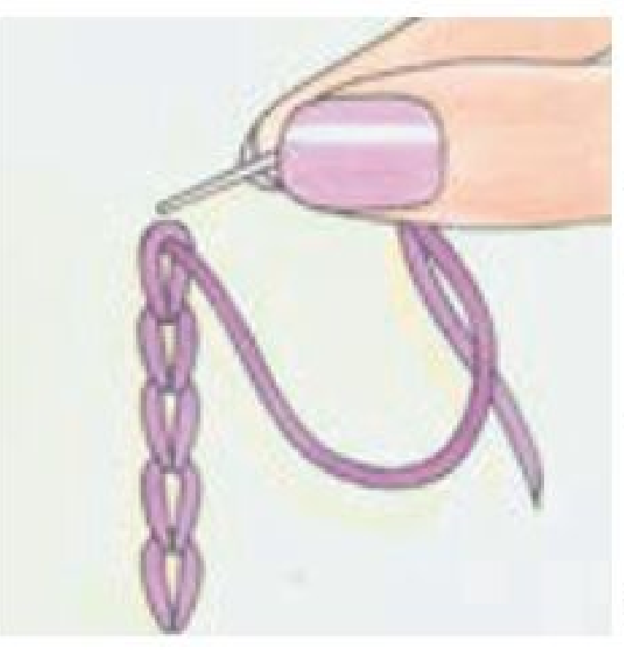
CHAIN STITCH



1 Bring the needle to the surface at the start of the sewing line. Take it back down very close to where it came up, then return it to the surface at the end position of the first stitch.



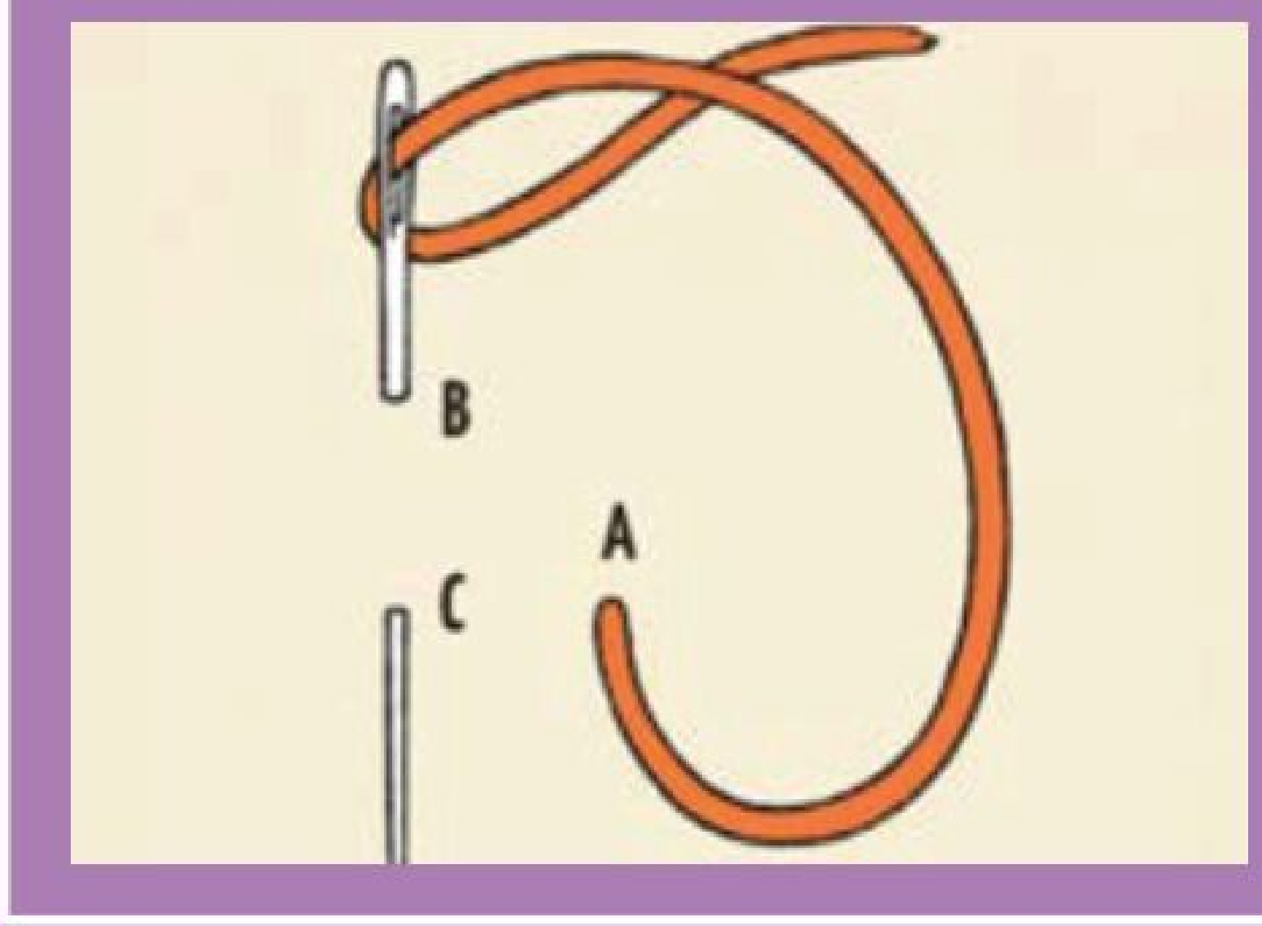
2 Take the needle back down, close to where it came up through the loop and bring it back up at the end position of the next stitch.



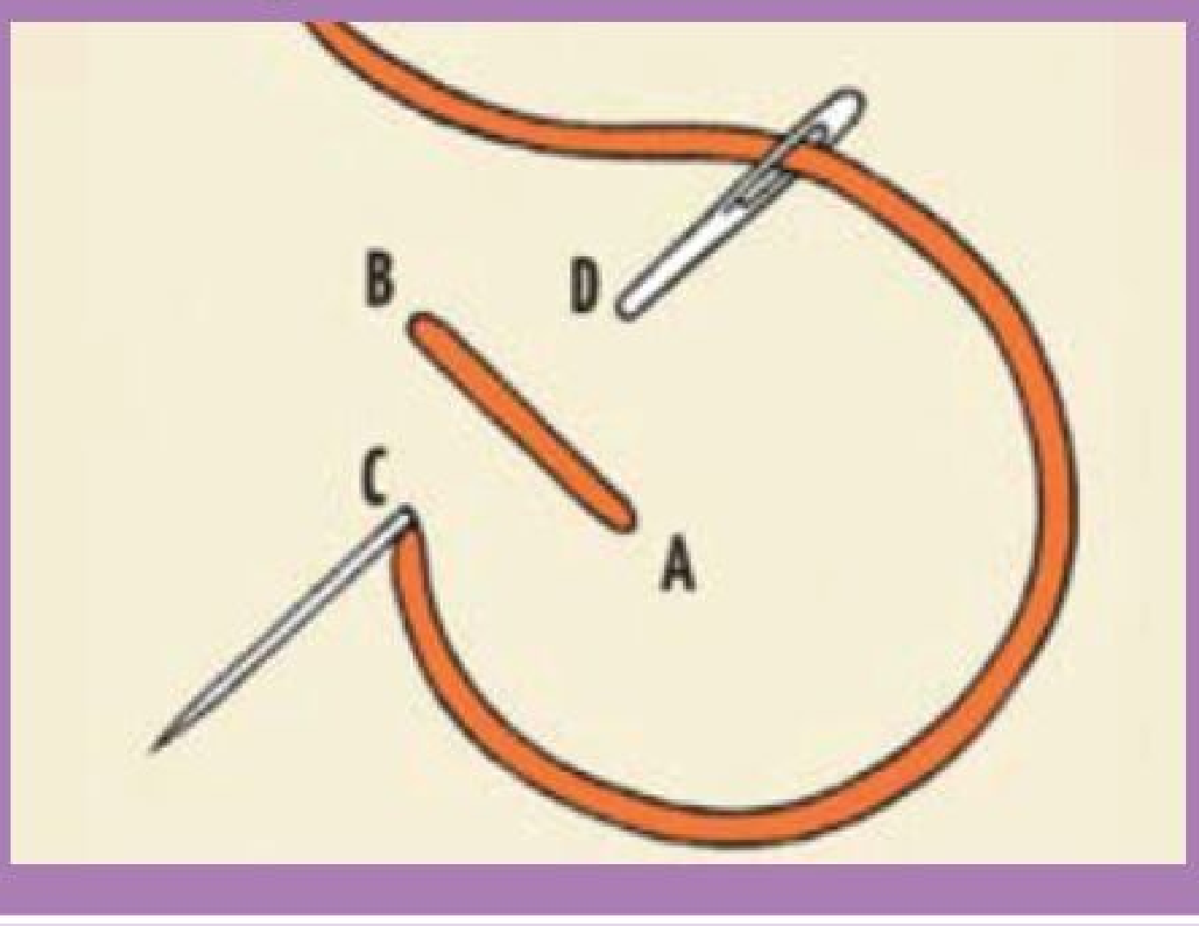
3 Continue working along the stitching line, repeating the steps to create a chain of links. Finish by catching the final loop with a small stitch to secure.

HOW TO CROSS STITCH

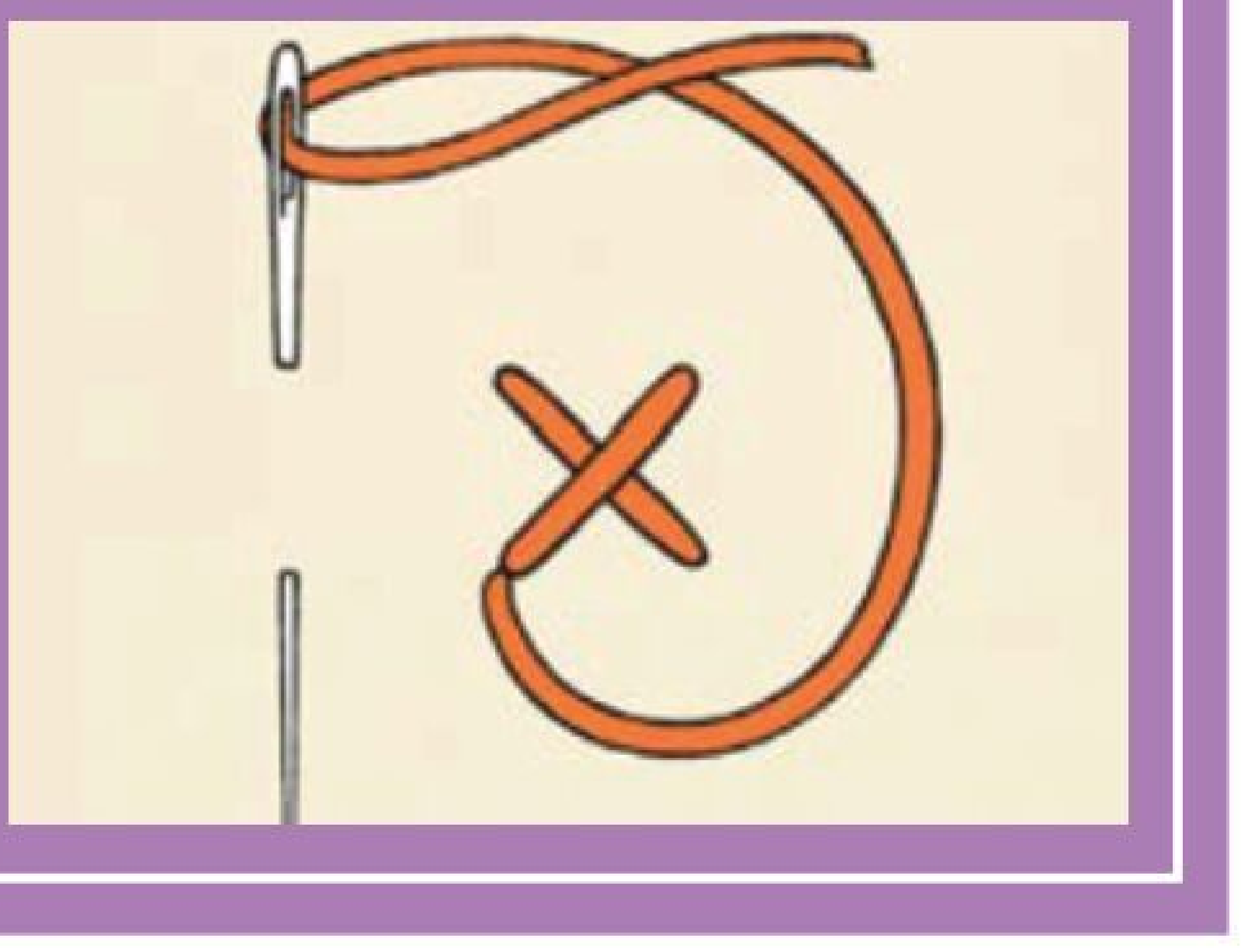
1 Bring the needle out at A and make a diagonal stitch to B, an equal distance up and to the left of A. Bring the needle out at C, directly below B and level with A.



2 Make a second diagonal stitch to D, immediately above A and level with B. To work a second adjoining cross, bring the needle out at C again.



3 Work cross stitches in the same way across the row. Complete all the A to B stitches first and then go back along the row doing C to D for a neater finish



TEMPLATES & CHARTS
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NEEDLE CHOICE

Sewing machine needles are stamped on the curved side of the needle shank with metric and imperial sizes followed by relevant needle mark codes. Here are some of the most widely used ones you are likely to see:

★ Your machine will likely come with universal point needles, which have a slightly rounded point. They can be used for sewing most woven or knit fabrics

★ Sharp point (regular) needles are ideal for woven fabrics like cotton and linen, as they make even stitches and will minimise puckering

★ Ballpoint needles have rounded points and are designed especially to sew knit and stretch fabrics. The tip is more rounded than the universal needle and is designed to push fabric fibres apart rather than cutting them, preventing laddering after stitching

★ Embroidery needles have a larger eye for thicker embroidery threads, and are designed to prevent threads from breaking

★ Quilting needles have tapered points to stitch through several layers of fabric without damaging it

★ Topstitching needles have an extra large eye and a deeper groove for heavier topstitching and doubled threads

★ Wedge point needles are for sewing leather and vinyl as they easily pierce the fabrics and create a hole that will close back up

★ Jean needles are well-suited to denim, heavy twill, workwear and other densely woven fabrics, such as canvas and linens. These needles have an extremely sharp point and a stiffer shank to make light work of stitching denser fabric types

1 2 3 4

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